









If you have about £9000 or more to spend on a car, Toyota is probably not the first name that will spring to mind.

You're more likely to think of a car like a Volvo 264, or a BMW 525, or a Mercedes 230.

Not surprisingly, for all three are desirable cars with illustrious names.

But before you make your choice, let us put the arguments for considering the new Toyota Crown. And demonstrate, with facts rather than opinions, that we are not getting ideas above our station.

### COMFORT.

We might describe the plushness of the Crown's seats, the spaciousness of its interior, the smoothness and quietness of its ride. But these are qualities which only a test drive will reveal.

Instead, we'll mention some of the ways in which the Crown cares for your comfort and its three rivals do not.

The seats have height adjustable headrests which are also adjustable fore and aft in the front. The driver's seat is adjustable for height and lumbar support.

The Crown, in fact, is a very adjustable car, so the small businessman will feel as comfortable as the big City magnate.

And only the Crown has air conditioning and an air purifier as standard equipment. Winter and summer, it keeps the air fresh as a daisy.

And should you, on a long drive, feel that a cool glass of Perrier would not go amiss, there is a cooler-box in the rear window shelf.

### EQUIPMENT.

The Crown is, quite simply, far better equipped than any of its three rivals. It is better equipped, indeed, than any other car at its price and many which cost a great deal more.

It has an auto-reverse stereo cassette-player with four speakers, and

a cassette box in the front console.

It has a self-seeking VHF/MW/LW stereo radio, and an electric aerial.

The electric windows can be opened and closed individually or from the driver's seat. The fuel filler cap, outside mirror and boot lid are all remote control.

There's a digital quartz clock, and all four seats have separate reading lamps.

The new Toyota Crown gives an overall 24.2 mpg, which is better than the Volvo, BMW and Mercedes.

It has electronic fuel injection, which uses petrol more efficiently, and responds more quickly than a conventional carburettor.

And its automatic gearbox has overdrive, which you can select manually and reduces petrol consumption when you are cruising.

# THE COMPELLING ARGUMENTS FOR BUYING A TOYOTA. RATHER THAN A VOLVO, BMW OR MERCEDES.

You can control the radio and air conditioning from the front seat if you are driving, or from the rear seat if your chauffeur is driving.

All three of our rivals offer you great comfort. Only the Crown offers you such luxury.

### ECONOMY.

There was a time when economy would have had no place in an advertisement for a luxury car.

That, though, was before the days of the £1.25 gallon.

### PERFORMANCE.

Here, you might not expect us to come first. But you would be wrong.

The Crown's 2.8 litre engine takes it from 0 to 60 mph in 11.1 seconds, which is 0.6 seconds faster than the BMW 525 Automatic.\*

Its power steering is speed-sensitive. The lower your speed, the more assistance it gives you. So the Crown is as easy to manoeuvre in Threadneedle Street as on the M1.

### SAFETY.

To protect you and your family in an accident, the Crown has a rigid steel passenger cell and crumple zones front and rear.

It has central door locking and inertia reel seat belts.

To prevent you getting into an accident, it has power-assisted brakes, four quartz-halogen headlamps and a rear fog warning lamp.

It has warning lights for the handbrake, brake fluid level and rear lights. The windows are tinted, to reduce glare.

### RELIABILITY.

At this stage of the argument, we will let others speak for us.

According to the German equivalent of the MOT, a Toyota is the most reliable car after two years on the road.

According to an independent British consumer survey, Toyotas suffer from fewer faults than any other make of car. And, in the unlikely event of your needing them, spare parts are easy to get and repair costs are low.

A luxury car, after all, should be more than a comfortable place to sit in while you wait for the AA to arrive.

### THE FINAL ARGUMENT.

A glance at the picture below will show that the new Crown will not look out of place outside the most elegant of houses.

Certainly, its new lines do not give away the most surprising fact of all:

The Toyota Crown costs £8,500. £400 less than the Volvo, nearly £500 less than the Mercedes, nearly £800 less than the BMW.

Not, we suspect, that you'd be influenced by a question of mere money. Any more than you'd be influenced by a famous name.

# TOYOTA

Everything keeps going right.



THE NEW TOYOTA CROWN



## HOME NEWS

## Main research groups urge plan for new industry to exploit genetics and microbiology

By Pearce Wright

A new type of science-based company, backed by the National Enterprise Board with £2m a year over the next five years, is recommended by the main organizations advising the Government on research and development.

The proposal is to exploit discoveries in genetic engineering and microbiology as the foundation of an industry manufacturing a novel range of pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals.

The plan is contained in a report called *Biotechnology*, published yesterday, of a joint working party of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, the Advisory Board for the Research Councils, and the Royal Society.

More than fifty eminent industrial, academic and government scientists in Britain have endorsed its conclusions. The report also recommends that the research councils spend a minimum of £3m a year on that field of work. Dr Alfred Spinks, FRS, chairman of the working party, suggests that can be achieved by a reallocation of priorities among the research councils, rather than asking for extra money.

But more money will be required in the university field, with a provision of, say, £2m capital from the University Grants Committee to ensure adequate long-term laboratory facilities. Moreover, a minimum of 20 new combined teaching and research posts over the next five years is needed to provide the necessary manpower.

Dr J. M. Ashworth, chief scientist to the Central Policy

Review Staff ("Think tank"), said at a press conference yesterday that a shortage of experienced people was more of an immediate limitation than money in bringing the new advances in biology to a successful industrial application.

The proposal for a research-oriented biotechnology company is a direct response to the recent creation in the United States and Europe of science-based firms specializing in genetic engineering and microbiological processes.

But the Government working party says a shortage of venture capital and high interest rates are hampering support for innovation in the United Kingdom compared with some export competitors.

Professor Brian Hartley, FRS, perhaps the most senior of the research workers in the field in Britain, suggests that the venture has to focus on those substances of wide interest for medicine and for transforming chemical manufacturing processes.

The production of interferon as a broad-spectrum antiviral drug and potential therapy for certain cancers is high on the list.

Another larger group of naturally occurring agents, monoclonal antibodies and immunoglobulins, are regarded as equally important because of the opportunity they give for novel methods of vaccine production.

Immunoglobulins prepared by conventional methods are of low potency and are scarce, as indeed are the quantities of interferon that can be extracted from white blood cells of donors. A method of preparing specific antibodies by cell

fusion by Dr Cesar Milstein, FRS, of the Laboratory of Molecular Biology of the Medical Research Council, has been potentially revolutionized work in that field, but the process needs further development.

The structure of public and private support for research and development is said to be not well suited to the development of a subject like biotechnology in Britain.

The topic straddles the divisions of responsibility both among government departments and research councils, and the arbitrarily defined fields of fundamental and applied research. What is required is a policy of "technology-push" to come from committed strategic research, which will be converted progressively into a "market-pull" as the products and processes of biotechnology emerge.

The first recommendation is for the research councils to increase their support for biotechnology, and that they should collaborate on projects and should request a higher industrial interest among applications for grants from universities.

The complete charter for biotechnology produced by the working party has 24 recommendations, including a stern address to various ministries that within their grasp are the fate of new medicines, systems for drug testing, novel sources of animal feedstuffs and veterinary agents, processes for materials recovery and effluent treatment, less energy-intensive manufacturing operations and other advances.

Bigger investment, page 22

## Protest on prisoners held in police cells

By Craig Seton

A total of 130 sentenced prisoners had to spend one or two days in police cells in the first three months of this year because of industrial action by prison officers or overcrowding at Wormwood Scrubs, London, the Home Office says.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, the Labour MP for Ormskirk, who had asked Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, for the figures, said yesterday that they were "absolutely appalling".

He was given them in a parliamentary written reply.

Mr Kilroy-Silk, who is chairman of the parliamentary all-party penal affairs committee, said the figures were another indication of the serious overcrowding in Britain's prisons. The population was now more than 44,000.

The figures also showed that the prison service was being run by prison officers, not the Home Office, and imposed an unacceptable burden on the police force.

It is totally inappropriate to be asking the police to do this kind of job, for which they are not properly trained or equipped and do not have the time.

Mr Kilroy-Silk said that he intended to ask Mr Whitelaw what action he proposed taking.

### War on field mice

A campaign to protect sugar beet against field mice has been started by the Ministry of Agriculture. It is estimated that they eat a quarter of the seed sown.



Sir Peter Gadsden, Lord Mayor of London, holding up his lamp at the start of a visit to the sewers of Blackfriars, London, yesterday.

## Artists dismayed by peripheral status

By Our Arts Reporter

Serious concern that the arts were not regarded by the Government as part of the future "core curriculum" for schools was expressed at a conference of professional artists and educators that ended at Cambridge yesterday.

Sir Roy Shaw, secretary general of the Arts Council, which convened the conference, endorsed delegates' dismay at

the peripheral status accorded to the arts in *A Framework for the School Curriculum*, a paper issued by the Department of Education and Science in December.

Sir Roy called it "a lamentable document resounding with stale platitudes". Its main theme was that schools should be responsive to national needs, but that was taken to mean

"The arts", he said, "are concerned with preparation for life, and that is no less a national need. Life is more than livelihood."

It was a discussion document and he hoped everyone, concerned with school, education and the arts would send constructive suggestions to the DES and the Minister for the Arts.

## £30,000 aid for youth law centre

By Robin Young

The Nuffield Foundation has promised a grant of £30,000 over three years to help to finance Britain's first law centre catering exclusively for children and young people in trouble with the law.

The Kids' Own Law Centre is to be established in Keats Rise, in the southern part of the London Borough of Brent, an area with high juvenile delinquency figures, many young people in care and high unemployment concentrated among black school-leavers.

The initiative in setting up the centre is being taken by the Brent Community Law Centre. Workers there say that at present young people are only a tiny proportion of their clients, and that often they seek help too late.

Mr Clive Grace, of the Brent centre, says it is hoped that the new centre will deal particularly with cases involving criminal matters, the use of the laws relating to arrest on suspicion ("sus"), child care cases, and the law on young people's employment.

"We would aim to offer young people advice about all their legal rights, and would keep an open door so that they could walk in whenever their problem."

The possibility of a quick and effective response would, he hopes, make the police a lot more careful in the use of their powers under the "sus" laws.

Last October the urban aid committee of the Labour-controlled Brent Borough Council refused assistance to the project

after press publicity had suggested that the law centre might be used by young people aggrieved at punishment meted out by their school teachers, and that it would threaten to undermine family life in the Asian community by advising young girls that they were not bound to submit to arranged marriages.

"We would explain to young people who came to us with these sorts of difficulties what their legal position is, and seek to help them if we could," Mr Grace said yesterday. "But we do not expect such cases to predominate."

The application to Brent council for financial help is to be renewed, and further aid is being sought from other charities. Mr Grace said the group was confident that the announcement of the Nuffield grant would make it much easier to raise the remaining £20,000 a year required.

## TV companies 'may seek sales before productions'

By a Staff Reporter

Commercial television companies may increasingly seek overseas sales before committing themselves to producing important series of programmes, a Commons committee says today.

The Committee of Public Accounts says, in its fifth report, that it could be argued that profits for levy purposes were being artificially reduced.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority excluded income from the sales of programmes overseas from a contractor's total income, but made no corresponding reduction in the total expenditure for an appropriate part of the initial production costs.

From that the committee draws the conclusion about the artificial reduction of profits, and expresses approval of the authority's agreement to review the accounting treatment to ascertain whether the rules for

## 'Order' as MPs fall out over animal B

By George Clark

Angry exchanges between supporters of the Protection of Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill during the first sitting of the standing committee in its first debate.

The chairman, Mr Leadbitter, Labour MP for Ipswich, had to call for the MPs to return to the standard of parliamentary debate.

Temper flared after Fry, Conservative MP for Northampton, said the Bill, which would prohibit experiments on animals, was a "paw-paw" at the issue.

One he did not want to see in the front paws of a scientist's hand. Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for West Lothian, a co-sponsor of the Bill, demanded more time: where had such a debate been conducted, and when?

Like any other off-the-paw of a rabid "But I want to see the where and when before the next sitting committee I will write ever was involved on the other side of the story convincing, naturally I admit it. But we have facts."

Standing immediately after Mr Fry, Mr Dalyell demanded the information Fry made no response. "There! That is the Mr Dalyell said, 'M lucky, he gets a high list of MPs who reduce a private member a chance that many of have given our ears to... He has had month preparation of the Bill certain matters of fact is still wanting on fact."

Mr Stephen Ross, Labour MP for the Isle of Wight, aggressively whether Mr approved of the "dogs" cancer research meat which received M licity about two years'.

"That has now stopped", Mr Ross said is what the sponsors of want to stop. There is a support in this country, the law up to date i Dalyell has supported i in the past."

"Instead of trying to the Bill on every stup thing, can he not be mful and get on?"

Mr Dalyell said he w see something done abi care research.

"Then don't be headed about it", Mr R "There is a limit."

After the chairman vened, Mr Dalyell said i way for the promoters great on the Bill would produce evidence for assertions.

Mr Fry promised to i a list of the "trivial, u sary and cruel" exper that he wanted stopped the committee meets ag March 16.

Labour MP se suspension of Debendox

Complaints about the w Committee on the Sift Medicines cleared Deb the morning sickness drug yesterday to Dr ( Vaughan, Minister of Sta Health, and the Parliam Commissioner (Ombudsman) Mr Jack Ashley, Labour i Stoke-on-Trent, South.

Mr Ashley is calling i drug to be suspended further evidence is consi He said the committee s have looked at all the evi produced when an Am mother sued Richardson rel, the manufacturer, her son was born deforme

He said: "I am astoi that the committee al reach a conclusion befoi has examined all the avai evidence."

"The committee found there was no scientific evid to show that Debendox c congenital abnormalities. understand it did not re all the evidence under the Freedom of Information A

The evidence prese there convinced the jury the drug did cause malfo tion. The CSM should i again when it has a full i script of the trial. Until it i I hope you will suspend drug."

The levy is collected by IBA on behalf of the Government and is based on the companies' profits; since its introduction in 1964 it has provic about £440m for the Exchequer.

The IBA said it would st the report. "We want to what precisely they are say about accounting procedure A code of practice could helpful in the application statutory requirements and clarifying the basis on whi the authority should opera it said."

# OPEC, unemployment, Détente and World War III?

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## ME NEWS

## White Paper underlines rising cost of Forces in Germany and general manning difficulties

by Stanhope Correspondent

Disturbing rise in the stationing troops in Germany and its consequences for the future of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and the implications for the Government's defence White Paper 1981, published yesterday.

In the past 20 years costs in an annual 31 per cent terms, and in 1980 estimated at £763m, or 10 per cent of Britain's "in-overseas spending on

White Paper tacitly concedes that the Government is not able to meet the impact of the exorbitant cost of the Anglo-German agreement, 1977.

absence of offset payments and the rising British Forces Germany, our ability to improve the effectiveness of the RAF Germany as we

er, many BAOR units are strong and a if Chieftain tanks are used. In many infantry companies have had to be reduced to 3,000 soldiers at time in Northern Ireland are "overstretch" for the troops re-

ed to improve BAOR's air and air defence and to speed up the pace of the re-BAOR in an emergency White Paper says.

le RAF we need to be aircraft, weapons to needed to make up Warsaw Pact's advantages and steady in quality."

Concern over rising costs and manning difficulties are apparent throughout the White Paper, the longest and most explicit since the last war.

Its background is, as always, the continuing growth of Warsaw Pact forces beyond what is needed for their own defence, and the implications for the West. We have no reason to believe that the present Soviet leaders are deliberately planning to attack Nato.

"But should we ever break out they intend to win, and meanwhile they can use Soviet military to impress, influence or threaten powerful nations to adopt policies which suit the Soviet Union."

The Russian invasion of Afghanistan "shows our opponents have both the power to make new territorial and strategic gains, and the nerve to use that power."

The defence of the United Kingdom is a key component in Nato's plans. In war it would provide a forward base for operations in the Atlantic, a main base for operations in the Channel and the North Sea and a base for operations on the Continent.

Yet over the past twenty years the effort devoted to the air defence of Britain has been "sharply reduced" and it should be improved.

The White Paper says, on the need for low-flying training over Britain "the inconvenience and risk must be set against the general balance of our Forces' relations with the community."

On the premature voluntary discharge of men from the Forces in 1977 and 1978, it says "it will take many years to replace them, however many new recruits are enlisted", because of the skills that were lost.

Recruiting was good in 1979-80, with an expected total intake of 49,000. However, there were shortages in some grades and specializations. The recruiting effort would deal selectively with particular shortages.

Recruiting will become more difficult from 1982 because of fewer young men entering the 16 to 19 age range. The Services need to recruit about 81 per cent of the men in that range, but by the late 1980s that will rise to 111 per cent.

More use is to be made of women in the services. It is planned to employ the Women's Royal Naval Service in a wider range of jobs and the Army has authorized a further 570 posts to be filled by the Women's Royal Army Corps and proposes to increase its overall size by a quarter.

"If, however, we are to be able to make the fullest use of women in the Services we must reconsider and perhaps revise our traditional attitude to allowing them to bear arms."

The Government, it says, believes that for the present there can be no question of members of the women's Services engaging in combat or being armed for any duties other than in exercises, emergency or war.

"Within this general limitation, however, we are considering how far it would be desirable to go. If arming women with personal weapons at all is acceptable, questions which must be resolved include whether it should be limited, as in some countries, to self-defence or whether, as in others, it might be extended to a base defence role."

Defence sales in 1980-81 are expected to amount to about £1,200m. The Royal Ordnance factories suffered a setback last year with the cancellation of an Iranian order for 1,200 tanks. But the White Paper says that

provided prospective orders materialize, the factory at Leeds should be able to maintain its tank-building capacity for the British Army.

The White Paper refers to widespread dissatisfaction at the five royal dockyards over pay, leading to industrial disputes, a loss of manpower and "a serious loss of output". A report on the matter is expected this month.

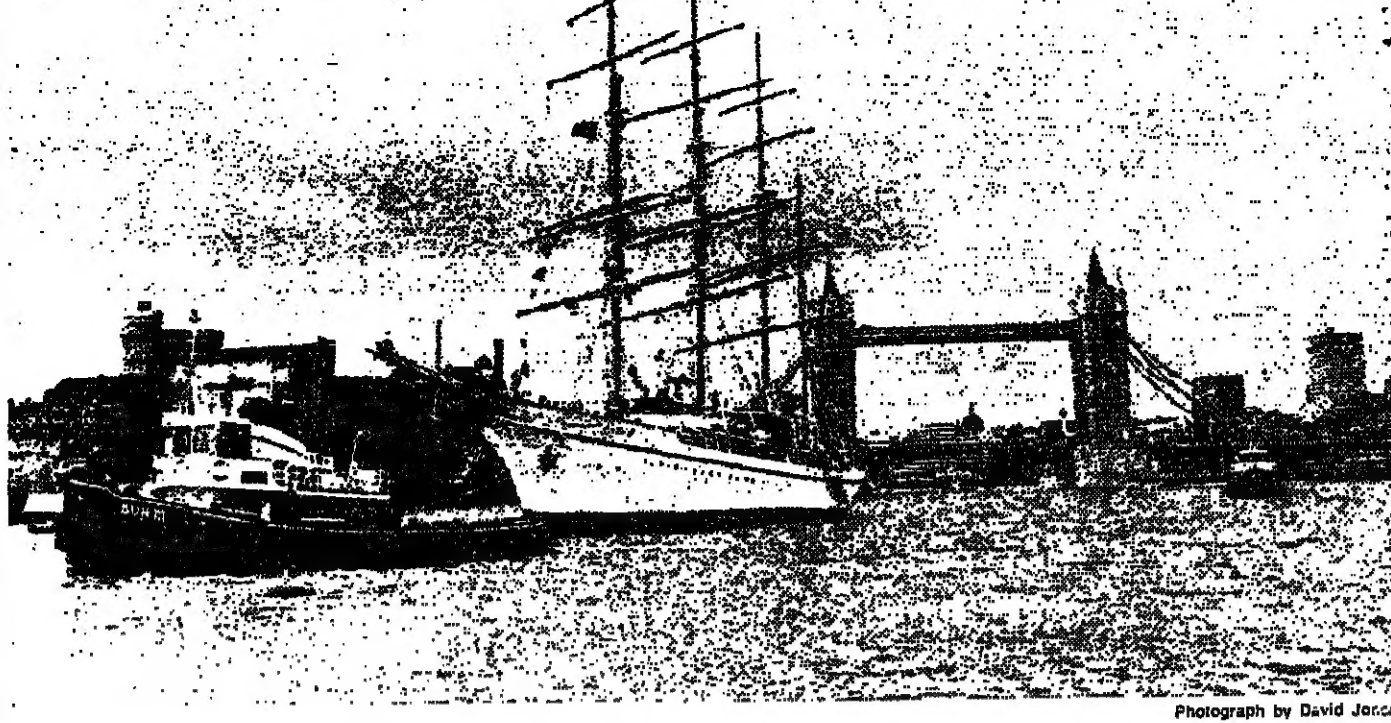
Equipment accounts for 41 per cent of the defence budget, the same as in 1979-80. Improved defences against chemical attack and a new armoured personnel carrier for the Army's tanks are among the procurement items detailed. But the White Paper refers only briefly to impending decisions on a replacement for the Polaris in the 1990s as Britain's next strategic deterrent, and to the Army's plans for a new tank.

Defence procurement, it says, is a vast and long-term undertaking. The largest projects may cost well over £1,000m and may take 10 years or more to develop and five years to come into service.

For the first time it illustrates some of the costs of equipment. They are: nuclear-powered fleet submarine, £140m; type-22 guided-missile destroyer, £85m; seabed operations vessel, £80m; Puma helicopter, £1.5m; Tornado strike aircraft, £10m; Milan anti-tank missile, £7,000; 155mm illuminating shell, £450.

Projects include: Sting Ray lightweight torpedo, £920m; Sea Eagle air-to-surface missile (improvement programme), £350m; Rapier anti-aircraft missile (improvement programme), £320m; new sonar equipment for ships and submarines, £170m.

Defence in the 1980s. Statement on the Defence Estimates (vols 1 and 2, Cd 7825, Stationery Office, £4.50 and £4).



The 353-foot barque Sea Cloud berthed in London yesterday fresh in from the Caribbean. She is to set sail for Hamburg on the first tide tomorrow and can be chartered for £35,000 a week.

## Home Office rebuked over police costs

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office was rebuked yesterday by the Public Accounts Committee for failing to control police spending properly. A report by the committee says: "We expect the department to make more effective use of the methods available to them to safeguard the legitimate interests of the Exchequer."

The committee also expects the Home Office to assert its "proper responsibility to ensure that all possible steps are taken to change police authority

practices where such changes could achieve better value.

Concern is expressed about variations between forces in expenditure on stores and equipment for police. The report describes the variations in the cost per officer as "substantial".

In general, the Home Secretary grants to the 43 police authorities in England and Wales to cover half their net relevant expenditure as certified by district auditors. In 1976-77 government assistance towards purchase of equipment alone was about £45m.

## Teacher jailed on spirits charge

John Arthur Bryan, aged 29, a schoolmaster, who was said to have received bottles of spirits stolen by a pupil aged 15, was jailed at Leeds Magistrates' Court yesterday for three months. Mr Bryan, of Woodhall Avenue, Leeds, pleaded guilty to receiving eight bottles of stolen spirits.

Mr Donald Adams, for the prosecution, said that 12 pupils at the school where Mr Bryan was a teacher had been detected with for stealing and handling wines and spirits.

## C controller says corporation got its sums wrong on inflation

by Gosling

Mr Ian Trethowan, general manager of the BBC, said one of his concerns was whether any future BBC spending would be cut. The committee on Scottish broadcasting had heard of several schemes that had been proposed in connection with the proposed cuts in broadcasting and the BBC's Scottish Orchestras.

Mr Ramsay, controller of the BBC's Scottish Orchestras, said he was still waiting for someone to suggest that the decision was taken on financial and not musical grounds.

Mr Roger Young, chairman of the Broadcasting Council for Scotland, said he was still waiting for someone to suggest that the decision was taken on financial and not musical grounds.

Mr Trethowan said he was "unhappy" that the BBC's Scottish Orchestras were not considered by Radio 3 to be quite as good as the Northern and London orchestras; there had been a wish by Radio 3 to reduce the

amount of that channel's exposure to the Scottish Symphony Orchestras.

Pressed to confirm that BBC management had long wanted to get rid of the orchestras, and the cuts presented the opportunity, Mr Ramsay said the orchestra performed a function for Scotland as a whole but the decision was taken on financial and not musical grounds.

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## hid behind solicitor

Refused behind a "safe" and "trusting" to try to divert the justice, it was alleged that a Criminal Court

Rufus Leon, aged 35, Street, Westminster, headed guilty to the murder of a woman, was fined £500 with for offering a potential financial reward in the withdrawal of about a criminal

Oliver Purnell, for the said Mr Leon, said Barlow Leon, solicitor, had been taken and for an alleged

written to the mother involved saying that continued to prefer his client they forced to file cross-claiming that she pro-

had also written to covering the case, Inspector Peter King if it was possible to have got our sums

Mr Leon spoke in the way and said that way to court, a way then would be public.

They told the police recorder was set up before Mr Leon. The police, hid a sofa, listened repeated his threats of money.

the "survival" urged

in Suffolk are to set up "survival" incorporating a post office and a one room to try to decline in rural facilities.

## 140 mph British motor cycle to challenge Japanese

By Peter Waymark Motoring Correspondent

The first important new British motor cycle to appear since the late 1960s was demonstrated yesterday by Lord Hesketh. It is a 1,000cc, twin-cylinder "superbike" which claimed top speed of 140mph.

The machine was designed and developed by an engineering team at Lord Hesketh's country home at Easton Neston, Towcester, Northamptonshire, and uses British components in 90 per cent of its construction.

The project has so far cost £500,000. Limited output will begin at Easton Neston in the summer, but Lord Hesketh is trying to interest a British engineering company in producing the machine in sufficient numbers to compete with Japanese and European motor cycles.

"There is a lot of spare capacity in the engineering industry, and we have had talks with several companies about producing the bike. There is a big demand for this type of machine, with sales rising by 60 per cent a year," Lord Hesketh said yesterday.

He was looking for an annual output of 1,000, and he expected the machine to cost between £3,000 and £3,500, which would make it competitive with BMW, Harley-Davidson and the high-performance Japanese machines.

"We hope that time will prove us to have made a classic, high-performance machine which will help to restore Britain's name as a producer of quality motor cycles," he said.

Lord Hesketh, who is 29, is known as a motor racing enthusiast and in the early 1970s he ran a Formula One team, with Mr James Hunt as driver.

Further summons for failing to be on the bridge or ensuring the presence of a competent officer was dismissed.

Mr John Ker-Reid, prosecuting for the Port of London Authority, said that the coaster hit the jetty after steaming full ahead towards the terminal without slowing down or changing course. Sparks flew on impact.

Captain Blank had claimed afterwards that an electrical fault had jammed the autopilot while the first mate was on the bridge. He had been below, but went to the bridge and found the mate in a state of shock and lying dazed on the wheelhouse floor.

## Captain whose ship hit gas terminal jetty fined

From Our Correspondent Southend-on-Sea

Fines totalling £180, with costs of £377, were imposed by Rochford magistrates, Essex, yesterday on the master of a coaster which rammed a jetty on the methane gas terminal on Canvey Island last April.

Mr Edward Marchant, chairman, told Captain Udo Blank: "By hitting the soft underbelly of Canvey, a very serious and dangerous situation might have developed."

Captain Blank, aged 41, of Sussex Drive, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent, was found guilty of navigating the 339-ton Panamanian-registered Sea Endanger the gas terminal jetty or other Thameside structures, near by, and careless navigation.

He admitted proceeding too far up river on automatic pilot instead of under manual steering in accordance with Port of London general directions. A

further summons for failing to be on the bridge or ensuring the presence of a competent officer was dismissed.

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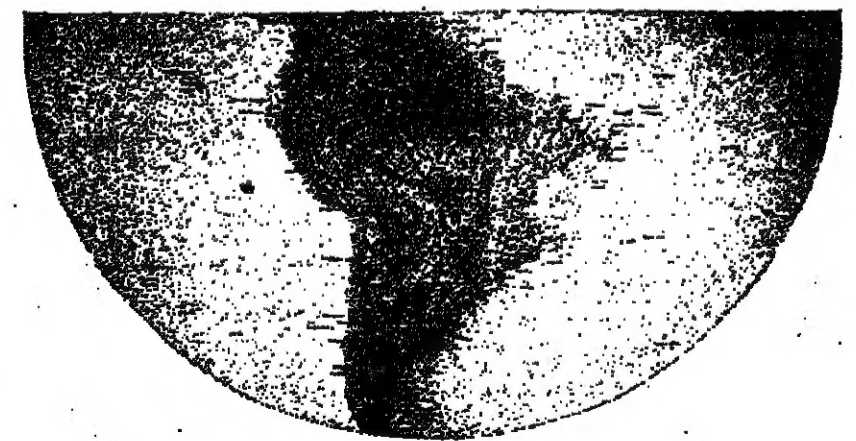
Mr Ker-Reid said: "Nothing was done to avert a collision with a highly dangerous installation. Navigation of this sort will not be tolerated in view of this dangerous situation and all the implications involved. The community must be protected."

## Brazil. Your leading partner on half the planet.

Hundreds of European, American, and Japanese companies have discovered the vast potential of Brazil, the leading market of the entire Southern Hemisphere.

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There are compelling reasons for this confidence in Brazil: Brazil is the 5th largest country in the world, 7th largest in population, 8th in the Western World in Gross National Product, 8th in industrial production, and one of the leaders in agriculture and animal husbandry. It has one of the largest hydro-electric potentials - aggregating about 209 million kilowatts - plus vast mineral resources, such as iron ore, uranium, vast amounts of bauxite, as well as gold, tin, copper, manganese and tungsten. Moreover, the country's steel, petrochemical, automotive, aeronautical and ship-building industries are highly developed.

Brazil's manufacturing industries are expanding at an accelerating pace, and are becoming increasingly competitive in international markets.



Its service companies, particularly those engaged in project engineering and specialized technologies, are quite active internationally, associated in many cases with organizations of other countries.

A vigorous market economy; a favorable business climate; a highly developed infrastructure, a plentiful supply of skilled and semi-skilled labor, and vast growth potential stimulated on a growing scale by a government policy focusing on free enterprise combine to make Brazil the great new frontier for international investors. Discover for yourself the investment opportunities and incentives that Brazil has to offer. Ranging from the import of quality Brazilian manufactured products in every sector to setting up new operations with Brazilian firms, or profitable capital investment.

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## HOME NEWS

# Family man will be more than £3 a week worse off in sickness pay under government proposal

By Annabel Ferriman  
Health Services Correspondent

A married man with two children will be more than £3 a week worse off in sickness pay under the new strategy proposed by the Government, details of which were published in a Green Paper yesterday.

The plan makes employers responsible for paying sickness benefit for the first eight weeks of a worker's sick leave in any year, and suggests that the rate be set at £30 a week at today's prices.

The Green Paper says: "Individuals with dependants may lose relative to single workers".

For workers earning less than £30 a week it is suggested that the employer should pay three quarters of the cost of a week's sick leave.

The Government is proposing that there should be only one rate, which employers should be obliged to pay during periods of sickness. That would be more than the single person's sickness benefit (now £18.50) but less than the amount now paid for those with children (£29.95 plus £1.70 for each child).

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## Move to calm storm on teachers' hours

By Diana Geddes  
Education Correspondent

Mrs Angela Rumbold, chairman of the Council of Local Education Authorities (CLEA), attempted yesterday to calm the storm over the negotiations on conditions of service for teachers.

The authorities' proposals were designed only to describe what teachers do, not to increase their work load, she said in a statement.

The proposals included assurances for teachers to achieve a fair distribution of duties, and safeguards in the form of maximum yearly and weekly hours of work.

Discussions on a new contractual definition of teachers' rights, duties and responsibilities had been taking place over the past year in a joint working party and substantial progress had been made, she said.

The CLEA had formally requested an early meeting of the joint committee responsible for negotiating conditions of service other than pay to review the working party's progress and to consider a timetable for completing negotiations.

When the working party met last week, the unions refused even to discuss a "draft interim agreement" presented by the local authorities.

Discussions continued, however, on the authorities' draft proposals on service. Those include a maximum of 27½ hours a week of teaching, a maximum of 7½ hours of other duties, such as mid-day supervision, and a minimum of 2½ hours during school for marking and preparing lessons.

It was also proposed that teachers work up to a maximum of 205 days a year to allow for in-service training outside term time. The present minimum school teaching year is 190 days.

Actual negotiations on the minimum and maximum hours have not begun.

The National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, the second largest teachers' union, has refused to take part in the talks on conditions of service and described the proposals as "demands".

The union said: "They may gain more contractual hours out of teachers, but they will lose an inestimable amount of effort and good will."

Other workers were reducing their working week, increasing their holidays and increasing their pay, but teachers were moving in the opposite direction.

Employees who have their sick pay from the state topped up to their usual earnings level by their employers are better off sick than well because their state benefit is not taxed.

The paper points out that when the present national insurance scheme was introduced it was rare for anyone to be paid by his employer for a period during which he was too ill to work.

The situation in 1980 is very different. Up-to-date figures are not available, but we know that as long as six years ago some 80 per cent of full-time employees were within the coverage of occupational sick-pay schemes.

"Nearly half of the people covered were eligible to receive full pay reduced by national insurance entitlement, or in some cases full pay on top of national insurance benefit," it says.

Evidence suggests that if anything the situation has improved for employees, yet the Department of Health and Social Security is processing 10 million claims a year, 90 per cent of which are for six weeks or less, it says.

The Government therefore thought it right to review the role of state sickness benefit. The amount paid out in flat rate benefit is £375 a year and the estimated cost to employers of the new scheme is £415m.

It is proposed that employers should not have to pay for the first three days of sick leave. Nor would they have to provide sick pay for married women

and widows who had chosen not to pay full national insurance contributions.

Comments are invited by September 30 next, and the Government hopes to introduce the scheme by 1982.

Negotiations are to be held with the British Medical Association about sickness certificates. Doctors have to issue them free for those claiming state benefit, but they charge if the certificate is for an employer.

Miss Ruth Lister, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said the plan discriminated against families with children.

It would put a considerable administrative burden on small employers, and to make employers pay only a proportion of the wages of those earning less than £30 a week would produce real hardship.

The British Medical Association found the proposal quite unacceptable. It will take away the patient's right to decide whether to reveal the confidential information in his national insurance certificate to his employer and will undermine the confidential doctor-patient relationship.

Dr Tony Keable-Elliott, chairman of the General Medical Services Committee, said the paper laid down that employers should be supplied with a statement about the patient's incapacity. That was a confidential matter and doctors would not disclose it.

Income During Initial Sickness: A New Strategy (Command 7864, Stationery Office, £2).

## Churchmen plan boycott

From Tim Jones  
Cardiff

A dispute about the nature of Holy Communion is threatening to mar a celebration to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the disestablishment of the Church of Wales.

As bishops from the six dioceses in the principality completed their plans to fill the national stadium in Cardiff with thousands of worshippers, some ministers and their flocks were planning to boycott the event.

The controversy has arisen because of a decision to allow only 50 communicants from each diocese to take the sacrament. That rest will be asked to join in spiritual communion.

Some churchgoers have claimed that is neither Anglican nor Catholic because it denies those eligible the blessing of the full service.

The Bishop of Llandaff, the Right Rev John Poole Hughes, has asked his ministers to read out a letter of explanation to the congregations. In it he says: "Please, forgive those who have made errors of judgment but be assured that the bishops are as sorry as anyone that general Communion is not practicable."

"You do not need a very long memory to recall how non-Communion attendance at the Eucharist was common with Roman Catholics and in some of our churches."

"The principle of spiritual communion may have fallen from favour, but I believe it has not lost its value. Suitable private prayers will be included in the programme to assist people during the Communion."

Bishop Poole Hughes makes clear that the bishops were influenced in arriving at their decision by considerations of time and by the steep terracing of the national stadium.

"Another aspect is the likelihood of groups of youngsters attaching themselves to the procession to see what is going on, who have no idea of what the Sacrament is, and who have been told by the Jehovah's Witnesses that they were troubled by pickpockets on similar occasions."

The communicants will be chosen by lot to avoid any suspicion of merit or favouritism.

Bishop Poole Hughes said limited communion at the national Mass was still practised in some places.

The Bishop of Monmouth, the Right Rev Derrick Childs, said it became clear to him, after he attended the last rugby international at the stadium, that Holy Communion for all would have been impossible in the time planned for the celebration.

"People who are able will take Communion before attending the celebration and others will join in spiritual communion," he said.

Sergeant Waddell continued: "I was told he had been fighting with everyone, including some passers-by as well. He suddenly seemed to turn blue, then went bright blue and stopped breathing."

PC Paul Brophy turned him on his side and another sergeant checked his mouth to make sure there was no obstruction. Sergeant Waddell said he ordered Mr Kelly's handcuffs to be removed and PC Brophy began artificial respiration.

In reply to Mr Ronald Lloyd, the coroner, Sergeant Waddell said: "He had been drinking. He smelled strongly of ale."

Cross-examined by Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, for the Kelly family, Sergeant Waddell said he listed Mr Kelly's property and the fact that there were no marks on the body. He did not see a sizable mark on Mr Kelly's forehead.

He added: "I saw a small mark which appeared to be old." He thought it was a graze or a scrape on the forehead several days old, and did not record it.

Sergeant Waddell said many violent prisoners who assaulted the police were charged only with being drunk and disorderly. Mr George Carman, QC, for the Police Federation and four individual officers, said: "For weeks and months now, the words 'cover-up' have been alleged on behalf of people in this case."

Those two officers, Constable Evans and Constable Frederick Browning, whom the man obviously became ill and subsequently died, did they make any attempt to you as a station sergeant to influence or cover up, or submerge, or disguise what had happened?"

Sergeant Waddell replied: "None at all, sir."



Karen and Heather Annabel, from Australia, at the Natural History Museum's family centre, open free of charge until April 19

## Irish church leaders join effort to end 'dirty' protests in prison

From Christopher Thomas  
Belfast

Roman Catholic church leaders in Ireland are making intense efforts to bring the degrading "dirty protest" by republican prisoners in Ulster to an end.

Cardinal Tomás Ó Fiaich, Catholic Primate of Ireland, went to Stormont on Tuesday for a two-hour lunch with Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who last week approved minor concessions to the protesters.

It was their second meeting in a month. The Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Dr Edward Daly, was also present. Mr O Fiaich put forward a formula for defusing the bizarre protest, in which prisoners smear excrement on cell walls and drape themselves in blankets rather than wear prison clothes.

The demonstration began in support of a special category status but there are indications that it would end if there were concessions on doing prison work and the wearing of prison clothing, without conferring special status formally.

The Northern Ireland Office has until now refused to yield even slightly to the protest; the new concessions on prison visits, letters and physical exercise announced last week are the first shift of ground in two years but have been cautiously rejected by the prisoners in the Maze near Belfast.

The extent of activity behind the scenes suggests that a mutual face-saving formula is being urgently sought. Cardinal O Fiaich, who is to have one more visit with Mr Atkins over the H block issue, is publicly saying nothing about his private ideas. Unlike his controversial outburst when he visited the Maze last July, he is now picking his words cautiously.

Special category status is no longer granted. Previously it was given for terrorist offences committed before March, 1976, regardless of when the conviction took place.

Meanwhile the police in the Irish Republic yesterday seized one of the biggest arms hauls ever when they raided a farm near Drogheda, Co Louth, and discovered a bunker hidden in a cowshed. A large force of police, backed by armed troops, descended on the isolated farm early in the morning, led by Assistant Garda Commissioner Joseph Ainsworth.

The shed contained more than 50 blast bombs, primed and fitted with timing delays varying from 12 hours to a week; 21 rifles, some of Soviet manufacture; three large sacks of assorted ammunition; two home-made mortars; fuses, detonators and a range of other equipment.

The farm was empty, but the police were searching for a Drogheda man last night.

A man in his early twenties was shot dead by gunmen in west Berlin last night in what is believed to have been a sectarian murder. Three men were believed to have been involved in the shooting.

Mr Robert Carr, aged 21, of Newry, Co Down, who was taken to a Dublin hospital with serious burns after an explosion at the customs post at Newry 10 days ago, died yesterday.

In Northern Ireland more than 20,000 people yesterday joined a series of rallies in Belfast and other centres in protest against the Government's economic policies. The demonstrations were organized by the Northern Ireland Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

Five bomb-throwing school children watched a blazing soldier rolling in the street after a car bomb explosion in Crossmaglen, south Armagh, yesterday (the Press Association reports).

A bomb in a parked car was detonated by remote control as the soldier drove past in an armoured vehicle, sending a fireball through his open window.

The soldier was taken by helicopter to Belfast and was seriously ill with severe burns. Withdrawal policy: A Labour committee on Ireland has been formed in an attempt to push the party leadership into adopting a policy favouring political and military withdrawal from Northern Ireland. The committee has the support of only three Labour MPs, but said it intended to start at grass roots level before attempting to gain parliamentary support.

The judge said that Mr Davey, who had met Miss St Barbe last June when she entered the nursing home in Fitzjames Avenue, where he worked, is entitled to apply to the courts for reasonable provision from her estate.

On December 20 the Court of Protection ordered the execution of a statutory will under the Mental Health Act, 1959. Miss St Barbe died seven days later and an open verdict was recorded at the inquest.

The judge said Mr Davey, who asked for the discharge of the order for the statutory will, complained that the order for the execution of a will should not have been made without notice being given to him. But the absence of notice had been fair and reasonable in view of the urgency.

The deputy master of the Court of Protection had taken account of Miss St Barbe's age and health. He thought that if she died before the will was made it would no longer be possible to challenge the validity of the marriage.

The working party decided that in view of the amount of work in hand, and the relatively short duration expected for offshore construction work, it was better to produce guidance quickly than to wait at least a year for regulation that could be overtaken by technology.

Although offshore installations came within the Health and Safety at Work Act late in 1977, little formal guidance on standards has been available. Yesterday's publication is based on similar regulations governing construction work on land, modified for work at sea.

The need for guidance is increased as the rising price of oil is making economic finds that were previously considered marginal. The guidance covers training, fire, the use of hazardous substances, work in confined spaces, noise, vibration and the risk of falls.

The fuel industries are negotiating with the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters for the sale of fuel saving stamps through sub-post offices. Mr Norman Lamont, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Energy, said yesterday.

## Male nurse fails to get court to overturn will

Mr Wallace Davey, a male nurse, who married a spinster aged 93 in what Mr Justice Fox described as suspicious circumstances two months ago, has lost his bid to overturn her will, in which the bulk of her £130,000 estate was left to her family.

The will had been drawn up on behalf of Miss Olive St Barbe by order of the Court of Protection, which manages the affairs of people of mental disability.

It was in the same terms as a will made earlier by Miss St Barbe which was automatically revoked when she married. But for the intervention of the Court of Protection, Mr Davey, who lives in Richmond upon Thames, would have taken the largest part of the £130,000 under an intestacy.

Mr Justice Fox upheld the court's order. He said the circumstances of the apparently clandestine marriage made the marriage of Miss St Barbe and Mr Davey, aged 48, were suspicious. Her family were not told and the marriage came to light only when a solicitor sent a marriage certificate to the Court of Protection.

The judge said that Mr Davey, who had met Miss St Barbe last June when she entered the nursing home in Fitzjames Avenue, where he worked, is entitled to apply to the courts for reasonable provision from her estate.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Paris decides to use non-union labour to clean filthy Métro

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, April 2

For reasons of health and safety the Paris Transport Authority (RATP) intends to hire "blacklegs" to sweep up some of the filth accumulated below ground over the past 10 days while the regular cleaners have been on strike.

The Métro is normally kept clean by 900 workers, supplied under contract to the authority to sweep the 45 miles of corridors and 20 miles of platforms.

On March 24 they struck for a pay rise of £30 a month to bring them above the minimum wage. Since then the 4.72 million passengers who use the system every day have, not unnaturally, been creating a considerable mess.

Tickets, cigarette ends, chewing gum, newspapers, plastic cups and bottles are underfoot almost everywhere. The tramps who habitually find shelter in the warmth of the stations have to clear rubbish from the seats before they can lie down.

The cleaners last went on strike in 1977 and in the end won a few concessions. The obstinacy with which they seem determined to hold out shows how strongly they feel their cause. Most of the cleaners are immigrants and the 12 companies which employ them are accused by their union representatives of exploiting the fact that they are

frightened of losing their jobs for fear of being deported. Most of the cleaning is done with brush and air blower, when the tramps throw the crews down on the tracks, up cigarette butts or rubbish by hand.

Other "injustices" word by the unions are that the cleaners do not receive the same pay as RATP workers, receive to get to work and allowed into wash-room kitchens except to clean. Conditions are such that only the poor migrants are prepared to work. Their resentment stems from a belief that they are the victims of officially-concocted racism.

The RATP has so far intervened, leaving the matter to the contractors. However, let it be known next year it intends to be by reducing the annual cleaning by about 4 million francs.

By London station. Metro is kept extremely clean by RATP workers. A French paper quotes an En with this legendary slogan, saying that it looks at dirty as the Underground, "but he monetary. In London the year round". Soances and RATP could change that.

that the monthly cost of 3,000 lire to meet musicians' demands is more than the theatres can afford to meet them.

La Scala has been about £15m a year since 1975, but the Government's subsidy of £7.4m.

In recent years, up throughout Italy, it forced to cut their income, such as prior, in order to keep only last-minute, as these subsidies. American, only years ago allowed to tour the United States.

With Signor Pavarotti and Signor Claudio conducting, the Verdi has been sold out. The audience includes lovers from West Switzerland and Britain.

Signor Carlo Tonoyan, of Milan, theatre president, the orchestra's conduct justified "and anti was in sight. The forced to cancel for programme of works by Barok and Schenck's programme was -AP.

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## La Scala dress standard create a deafening silence

Milan, April 2.—Musicians have made the first moves in the so-called "war of the tails" by silencing La Scala opera house here in a new blow to the Italian.

The opera house orchestra simply failed to show up for a performance of Verdi's Requiem Mass. There was a standing-room-only audience.

"Nothing like this has ever happened before in any of the many cities where I've sung," Signor Luciano Pavarotti, the tenor, said.

For weeks the musicians have been saying they need more money for the evening clothes demanded by the American management in order to "conform to the tradition of impeccability and smartness of the theatre".

Last month they wore blue jeans and shirtsleeves for a performance of Tosca, but the performance went on.

But it was last night when 2,500 spectators waited in vain in the church of St Stephen. There were another 8,000 people in four other locations, including La Scala, linked by closed circuit television.

A tape of Verdi's work was piped in but it did little to cool the anger.

The orchestra's 128 members, who received an average monthly salary of 600,000 lire (about £300) are demanding

that the monthly cost of 3,000 lire to meet musicians' demands is more than the theatres can afford to meet them.

La Scala has been about £15m a year since 1975, but the Government's subsidy of £7.4m.

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## T EUROPE

## German gypsies protest Dachau

From Desha Trevisan  
Belgrade, April 2

German gypsies will run by the Bavarian against their plan to strike at the Dachau concentration camp Friday to call to continued persecution.

They asked us in the if we wanted to go and now we are not ask anyone," Herr ose, their leader, said. "The gypsies claim the right to go into Dachau, or dead, ours and the are there. Dachau to the victims. It us."

The hunger strike on 15 and 20 gypsies, half-a-dozen former Dachau, is the first West German gypsies at continuing tion.

500,000 gypsies were along with the ad camps during the ch. But while the ahs are remembered, r and amends made, s, the fate of the e been forgotten and r persists.

ger strikers will not au, he says, until received the rehabi- demand.

ical target of their are the authorities, the Interior Ministry, of lous files about them s compiled originally is for the purpose of ion.

istry said that the ere destroyed in arther investigations ted that the gypsies s suspecting they are iation.

les define individual out any court con- as anti-social and The original purpose, was to justify their ion.

ies are also demand- ation for camp sur- have been refused ud to alleged harass- ills.

## EEC gives Yugoslavia wider access to its markets and aid

From Desha Trevisan  
Belgrade, April 2

Yugoslavia and the EEC forged closer links today by signing a wide-ranging agreement which is to help Yugoslav exports to the Community and provide financial aid and other measures to overcome the country's growing trade deficit with the Nine.

At the signing ceremony, Signor Attilio Ruffini, the Foreign Minister of Italy, the current president of the EEC Council of Ministers, expressed sympathy with President Tito's illness.

In fact, it was his illness that prompted the Community to bring to a conclusion negotiations which have been dragging on for two years.

A note, agreement, which was initiated in February, confirms the interest of the Nine in reinforcing Yugoslavia's independence and non-alignment. It also reflects West European concern over the future of Yugoslavia without President Tito when the Soviet Union is expected to increase pressure, especially on the country's economy.

The agreement, which has to be ratified, runs initially for five years and provides free access to the Nine for a whole range of Yugoslav industrial

goods as well as improving the prospects for agriculture exports.

This is expected within five years to reduce by two thirds the Yugoslav trade deficit with the EEC which amounted to £1,500 million last year, accounting for more than half of Yugoslavia's total trade deficit.

The agreement improves the status of Yugoslav migrant workers giving them full social security benefits within the EEC. It also envisages joint ventures in third markets as well as cooperation and long-term economic projects.

The Community has thus recognized the importance of maintaining Yugoslavia's stability after the Tito era and strengthening its independence from Moscow.

Yugoslavia is at present attending a meeting in Moscow of Comecon, the East European economic organization. Yugoslavia holds observer status in the grouping taking part only in some cooperative ventures.

The Soviet Union is one of Yugoslavia's principal trading partners and important export market but difficulties have arisen as negotiations for a new trade agreement were interrupted last month.

Yugoslavia depends heavily on Soviet coaling coal and a third of its oil requirements are imported from the Soviet Union. A hitch that has developed over oil and gas imports makes it doubtful if Russia will continue deliveries next year.

## Papandreou plan for referendum on Nine

From Mario Modiano  
Athens, April 2

Western European leaders are increasingly disturbed by the prospect that if the Opposition came to power in Greece it would see the country out of the EEC, of which Greece becomes a full member next January 1.

Mr Andreas Papandreou, the leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasek), the main opposition party, in an interview published today reiterated that when his party came to power it would hold a referendum so that the Greek people could say whether they wanted to stay in the Community.

Mme Simone Veil, the President of the European Parliament, who met Mr Papandreou during her five-day visit to Greece told a press conference: "If the result of the referendum is negative, it would certainly produce a problem for the Community."

Pasek, as well as the pro-Moscow Greek Communist Party, are opposed to Greek membership of the EEC. Together the two parties control more than one-third of the 300 seats in the Greek Parliament.

Mr Papandreou who has just returned from Western Germany where he had talks with the Social Democrats, assured Mme Veil that his party would take an active part in the work of the European Parliament. This had given rise to hopes that Pasek was tempering its opposition

## OVERSEAS



Pedal power in strike-bound New York as people cycle to work through Times Square.

## Jog-to-work New York expects worse

New York, April 2.—New Yorkers have coped with the first 24 hours of an almost total public transport strike with few apparent ill effects, except to feet unaccustomed to long distance walking.

Traffic problems, fairly minor yesterday because Jewish observance of the Passover kept many people away from work,

were expected to increase today.

There was almost a carnival atmosphere during yesterday's morning rush hour as tens of thousands walked, jogged, pedalled, hitch-biked and even roller-skated in bright sunshine across the bridges into Manhattan.

No new wage negotiations were scheduled between the

transport workers' union, representing about 33,000 bus and subway workers and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

City and state authorities took steps to seek a court order to get the strikers back to work under New York State's Taylor Law, which, theoretically, bans strikes by public employees.

—Reuters.

## Poisoner's threat fails to shut store

From Ivor Davis  
Los Angeles, April 2

A bizarre extortionist who calls himself a member of "the Poison Gang" is now demanding 100 uncut diamonds in exchange for a list of groceries he says have been laced with cyanide, police disclosed today.

So far employees at Safeway stores in San Diego have found cyanide in a bottle of sauce and a jar of pickles after receiving a call from the extortionist.

Over the weekend, a large jar of pickles was found to contain 1,400 milligrams of cyanide. Doctors consider 250 milligrams lethal. The bottle of poisoned sauce was found after a store employee received a warning telephone call.

The note which police found with the pickles read: "There are five other food items loaded with cyanide that are now on the shelves of this store. If you comply with our demands we will give you a list and exact locations of these food items. Otherwise, we will poison the food in every Safeway store in the area."

The note, signed "the Poison Gang", demanded 50 diamonds "one carat or larger of good quality" in return for the list.

Since the poisoned groceries were found, the store, which closed for one day only, has reopened and tripled its security force. Shoppers have been offered refunds on any items and several hundred have taken advantage of the offer.

## Nato jets grounded by Belgium

Brussels, April 2.—A squadron of Belgian Air Force jet fighters has been withdrawn from a Nato exercise in September because the Government says it cannot afford the fuel.

A Nato official said today that Belgium recently informed its allies that the 18 Mirage jets will not take part in the annual mobile force exercise.

Belgium's military officials said they need an additional \$50m (£20m) this year for fuel. If the money is not forthcoming military operational activities will be cut and all Air Force aircraft will be grounded from September 1.

## Spain becomes favourite for Spaniards

By Debelius  
April 2

A run lottery, for 169 Spaniards' favourite is being displaced by bingo to Finance estimates published.

al figures show that spent £1,080m in 1978, the first full year since the Franco regime was overthrown. Last year the on pools was £232m. Lottery for the blind in 1979. Since none has been open more than two years, it is too soon to make comparisons with other types of gambling.

gambling revenue. The lottery pays in prizes 70 per cent of what it takes in. The other 30 per cent—which amounted to about £300m last year—goes to the State. Bingo, according to current legislation, pays out 75 per cent in prizes, with 10 per cent going to the operators of the halls and 15 per cent going to the State. Last year the State got £161m.

The 17 casinos in Spain have not attracted many foreign tourists. Only seven per cent of last year's players were foreigners, the casino-owners' association said.

Casinos, which pay from 15 to 30 per cent of their gross profits to the State, depending on the amount of the profit, poured £16m into the Treasury in 1979. Since none has been open more than two years, it is too soon to make comparisons with other types of gambling.

## German squabble over elevated railway

By Spitzer  
April 2

Elevated railway service in Berlin is once again in discussion. One that the summer time-vides for a consideration in the number of as running in West mother is that—after seal of 90 employees is year—a further 200 ple can expect notice.

the Gierach, the secre- low in West Berlin after East Germany built the Wall dividing the city in 1961. Eventually, however, West Berliners began to use it again but on a limited scale.

Apart from raising fares East Germany has frequently demanded subsidies from the West Berlin Senate. The requests have been rejected. This rejection was used as an excuse by the East Germany company earlier this year for the dismissal of employees.

West Berlin is not interested in taking over the S-Bahn in West Berlin. In any case this is a matter that would have to be decided by the Allies.

in the world before the Second World War, has been operated by the Deutsche Reichsbahn in all of Berlin by decree of the four occupying powers since the end of the war.

The operating permit obliges the company to provide a satisfactory service. However, the S-Bahn is by now in a deplorable state, its stations and its rolling stock are rundown.

The number of passengers carried dropped up to all time low in West Berlin after East Germany built the Wall dividing the city in 1961. Eventually, however, West Berliners began to use it again but on a limited scale.

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## pledge to red man

April 2.—West will agree to a 10-year suspected guest he be given kidney if he returns from and gives himself up, prosecutor said here.

Raabe, aged 28, who Ireland a year ago, is to have carried out a task two years ago and formed a "Red Army cell."—Reuters.

## Briton released in Bologna

Bologna, April 2.—Mark Holton, a 22-year-old Hull University student who has been teaching in a high school here, was released today after a week in jail on suspicion of taking part in robberies, kidnappings and illegal possession of arms.

Mr Holton, who comes from Manchester, was detained on March 26 during an anti-terrorism sweep along with two other Britons who are still in prison.—Reuters.

## Patients abandoned

Rome, April 2.—Half a million Italian hospital workers and 80,000 doctors went on strike today, leaving hospital patients without food and medical care except in urgent cases.

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## OVERSEAS

## China's leaders try to forestall revival of dissident activities

Peking, April 2.—Two days before the Qing Ming festival of the dead, a symbol of political activism, the authorities warned in veiled terms against any attempt by the human rights and democracy movements to make a reappearance.

The *Quangming* daily today published a long commentary castigating the activities of the now silenced movement, particularly the writing of big character posters.

Wall posters are one of the four vital rights guaranteed by the Chinese constitution, the others being the rights to "speak out freely, air their views fully (and) hold great debates".

The newspaper said it was "absolutely indispensable" to abolish these four rights, something the regime has already announced its intention of doing, on the ground that they were "no longer necessary" and even "harmful".

The commentary, published so close to the Qing Ming festival was clearly aimed at forestalling any such activities, the popular political excitement experienced at Qing Ming over the last four years, observers said.

In 1976, before the death of Chairman Mao, Qing Ming was marked on April 5 by rioting in Peking and incidents in several other cities.

In most cases the demonstrators were protesting against the intervention of the security forces against people paying homage to the memory of Chou En-lai, the popular Prime Minister, who had died four months earlier. The incidents were described by Mao's successors as "heroic and revolutionary".

In the two following years political activists marked the Qing Ming festival by putting

up big character posters, and this led to the birth of the human rights movement which insisted that they were acting in the "spirit of April 5" 1976.

However, last year's Qing Ming was celebrated against the background of an official clamp-down on dissidents and a ban on putting up big character posters in Peking's Tiananmen Square.

Since the beginning of this year, Chinese leaders, including Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Deputy Prime Minister, have made it quite clear that they would not tolerate dissent in China.

The only demonstration now allowed in Tiananmen Square are ceremonies held by school children and members of the young pioneers organization, for dead leaders.

For the past few days there has been a steady stream of processions to the foot of the Monument of the Heroes of the People in the centre of the square, where the children lay wreaths and bouquets of paper flowers.

Meanwhile, Peking's only surviving opposition magazine, the *April Fifth Forum*, has stopped publication because of "indirect warnings" from the authorities.

Mr Xu Wenli, the chief editor and his 17 staff members told foreign journalists who visited them at Mr Xu's small flat yesterday that they hoped the demise of the mimeographed handwritten magazine forces against people paying homage to the memory of Chou En-lai, the popular Prime Minister, who had died four months earlier. The incidents were described by Mao's successors as "heroic and revolutionary".

In the two following years political activists marked the Qing Ming festival by putting

## Israel hits back at Egyptian declaration

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, April 2

An angry public exchange between Israel and Egypt over the status of a feast Jerusalem has soured the atmosphere for the forthcoming series of meetings on Middle East peace which are due to begin next week when President Sadat flies to Washington.

In a statement issued today the Israeli Foreign Ministry bitterly denounced a unanimous resolution passed yesterday by the Egyptian Parliament in Cairo declaring that annexed east Jerusalem was an integral part of the occupied West Bank which should serve as the headquarters for the proposed Palestinian autonomy council.

The incident emphasizes the size of the gap which still exists between the Israeli and Egyptian positions on essential elements of the autonomy negotiations, and the formidable nature of the diplomatic task facing President Carter in his separate talks with President Sadat and Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

There were suggestions in Israeli Government circles tonight that the 120 members of the Knesset may be recalled from their Passover recess to answer the Egyptian Parliament's resolution, which also condemned Israel's settlement policy.

An attempt to draft a joint condemnation of the Egyptian stand by political parties and the opposition Labour Party was also reported to be under way.

There were strong indications tonight that the controversial Egyptian resolution has further stiffened Mr Begin's resolve to refuse to bow to American or Egyptian pressure during the Washington talks, particularly over the Jerusalem issue.

In another bid open for the Washington meeting, two of Israel's most extreme right-wing politicians have announced that they are flying to the American capital as part of a "Truth Squad" which will follow Mr Begin throughout his stay and try to ensure that he makes no concessions.

The two politicians are Miss Gola Cohen and Mr Moshe Shamir, the two Knesset representatives of the recently formed "Religious Zionism" Party which is demanding an immediate end to the peace process with Egypt.

Their visit is being financed by American supporters and is designed to mobilize the powerful American Jewish lobby against any pressure that might be put on Israel by President Carter.

Miss Cohen said: "We will explain that the peace process is filled with time bombs for Israel and that it should be ended. Because of the way international opinion seems to be moving, our view is that an Israel confrontation with the United States and possibly with the future of Jerusalem is inevitable."

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## Baathists contemptuous of Lebanese authority

## Syrian gunmen conduct a violent interlude to Beirut lunchtime

From Robert Risk, Beirut, April 2

It was a typical lunchtime in Hamra Street. Smartly-dressed gentlemen with worry beads juggling in their hands walked disconsolately past the clothes shops while their temporarily abandoned girlfriends—sophisticated ladies in dark tight-fitting dresses—waited for them in the express restaurant, a side building that passes for the ultimate in Lebanese chic.

Few people bothered to glance at the khaki-dressed gunmen standing in the street outside the headquarters of the Syrian "Special Forces" at the west end of Hamra Street. Even my taxi driver steered past them without comment. Only the money-dealers in their little steel-fronted booths—sure weather vane of violence in this brash, recumbent city—watched with any degree of apprehension.

They had got it right, of course. Just one street away and quite without warning, two bearded men in camouflage tunics came running round the corner of Rue Basilek. They

held rifles above their heads and fired a swarm of bullets into the afternoon sky. Dozens of iron shutters rattled down as west Beirut's shopkeepers closed their premises. One middle-aged man, a seller of doctored antiques, argued about closing until a young man thrust the muzzle of a small black pistol under his nose.

The gunmen were members of "Furqan", part of the military intelligence section of the Syrian Baath Party. They occupy a run-down office in Hamra Street, comprise Lebanese as well as Syrian recruits, and fall under the command of none other than Colonel Rifkat Assad, the brother of the Syrian President. In fairness, it has to be said that they did not kill anyone today.

They were angry, it transpired, because a Kurdish member of their organization had allegedly been kidnapped. There seemed to be some suspicion that he might have been arrested by the police and when members of Lebanon's Squad 16, the country's riot police,

turned up in a white station wagon, the Syrians fired shots at them. They missed but it did not stop them closing down the commercial life of West Beirut.

It is ironic that representatives of Syria's Baath Party, which espouses the cause of law and order in Beirut, should have confronted Lebanon's law-enforcement agencies, but that fact reached its apogee in Jean d'Arc Street when a Syrian in an army steel helmet pointed a rocket launcher at three Lebanese traffic policemen.

One of the gendarmes looked across the road at me and shrugged. With his two frightened colleagues he retreated down the street. The gunman responsible for that scene then told those of us watching that we would have our heads blown off if we did not leave too.

Yet an hour later, it was all over. The shops were reopening, the traffic police whistled valiantly at the taxis and the unsmiling young ladies resumed their interrupted coffee at the Express.

There was not one armed hill-billy to be seen.

## Fresh demands by Iran puzzle Washington

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, April 2

President Carter and his foreign policy advisers are today mulling over an Iranian demand for new reassurances from Washington before the American hostages are transferred to the custody of the Iranian Government.

President Bani-Sadr told Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, last night that he was still waiting for a statement of the Administration's intentions. He seemed to want President Carter to promise not to take any further hostile or provocative actions against his country in the foreseeable future.

The Administration had assumed that yesterday's decision by President Carter to defer introduction of new economic and diplomatic sanctions was a sufficiently conciliatory gesture to convince the Iranian authorities of his good intentions. The postponement followed indications that the Iranians were about to arrange the transfer of the hostages.

A White House official has told reporters that the administration wants to be as cooperative as it can, since it understands the delicate political situation in Iran. Bani-Sadr said "obvious limits to the president or any president go". He also said it was completely clear exactly what assurances the Iranians were seeking.

Elaborating, State Department White House men said later that the Iranian position was trying to put the position of Iranian Washington has been "conflicting signals".

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## Prince Sihanouk ready to return to Kampuchea

Peking, April 2.—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Kampuchean head of state, said here today that he was ready to return to Kampuchea under the pro-Vietnamese Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh, while refusing to recognize the "Vietnamese protectorate" over his country.

He once more turned down any possibility of cooperating with the Khmer Rouge communists supported by the Chinese. He added that he had not received any offer to return to Kampuchea from the Phnom Penh Government.

The Prince emphasized that he would return to Kampuchea only if "the majority" of his supporters favoured it and he would not play any political role but limit himself to using his influence in Western countries in seeking aid for Kampuchea.

Prince Sihanouk who has just ended a four-month journey round the world, said that his plan for the neutralization of Kampuchea received "no concrete support".

The United States State Department had advised him to concentrate on "the humanitarian aspect" of the "Kampuchean question, rather than on political issues."

He told a press conference: "I am completely powerless. I am in a dilemma. I have given up the idea of armed struggle. I do not want to take part in the massacres of the last Kampuchean survivors."

Since his arrival in Peking on Monday he has met Mr Ji Pengfei, Deputy Prime Minister, and Mr Han Nianlong, a

Deputy Foreign Minister. He said he had good relations with China but he still disagreed with Peking over the Khmer Rouge. "It is immoral to support the Khmer Rouge," Prince Sihanouk said. He added, however, that China's use of them was "understandable" as it wanted to "contain Vietnamese expansionism" in South-East Asia.

Referring to recent statements by Mr Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader, and Mr Eiang Sary, his Foreign Minister that the Khmer Rouge had not committed massacres when in power in Kampuchea, Prince Sihanouk said they were "lies".

He affirmed that he would not have talks on a possible alliance with the Khmer Rouge either in Peking or in Pyongyang where he is to arrive on Sunday.

Prince Sihanouk said that the "Vietnamese are posing a lesser danger to the security of the Kampuchean population than the Khmer Rouge" and quoted foreign reports that the Heng Samrin regime had managed to "stabilize and normalize" living conditions in Kampuchea.

He predicted that more and more countries, beginning with India and France, would come to recognize the pro-Vietnamese Phnom Penh regime. He knew that France was studying the setting up of practical relations with it.

In the United States he had gained the impression that the Americans would "inevitably" try to normalize relations with Vietnam. — Agency France-Press.

## Joy Adamson 'killed with farm implement'

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, April 2

Mrs Joy Adamson, the naturalist and author of *Born Free*, was murdered with a simi (a two-edged farming implement like a sword), and an iron bar, a police witness said today at a preliminary inquiry in Nyeri, 30 miles from Nairobi.

A magistrate is conducting the inquiry into a charge that Paul Nakwara Ekai, aged 23, a former employee of Mrs Adamson, murdered her.

The police witness said that Mr Ekai led him to a manyatta (encampment) and showed him the simi after being arrested.

## Tanzanians begin withdrawal from Uganda

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, April 2

The withdrawal of 10,000 Tanzanian troops, half the force which has been in Uganda since the overthrow of President Amin a year ago, has begun and is expected to take two or three weeks.

Mr Rashidi Kawawa, the Tanzanian Defence Minister, said in Dar es Salaam that the withdrawal was taking place as planned, but Uganda Government leaders say they would have liked more time to build up their own army.

Newly-trained Ugandan troops have taken over garrison duties at several centres.

Assistance of a pacific nature was discussed today between Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister designate, and M Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner responsible for aid and development. After a meeting lasting about an hour Mr Mugabe said he had informed M Cheysson of Zimbabwe's wish to become a member of the Lomé Convention.

M Cheysson replied that the nine members of the European Community wanted to see Zimbabwe become a signatory to Lomé as soon as possible. He added that signatory countries meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, just before the Zimbabwean election in February, expressed the hope that Zimbabwe would become a party to the convention.

The EEC was anxious to assist with emergency reconstruction as well as with re-

## Israeli concern at Jews given refuge in US

From Our Correspondent, Tel Aviv, April 2

Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, today objected to the United States Government's regarding Jews leaving the Soviet Union with visas for Israel as political refugees.

Tens of thousands of Jews have left Russia with permits to join families in Israel and then diverted to the United States. More than 70 per cent of the Jews leaving Russia have been dropping out in Vienna, the first stop in the West. The largest number went to the United States.

Mr Aryeh Dulin, the chairman of the World Zionist Executive responsible for immigration to Israel, today asked Mr Begin to take up the matter with President Carter when they meet in Washington later this month. He argued that it was an affront to Israel that a Jew with a visa for Israel, who was entitled to automatic citizenship on arrival, should be considered a refugee.

Mr Begin said the United States law on refugees was "noble and humanitarian" but it should not apply to Jews with Israeli visas. He wished, however, to consult Cabinet colleagues before deciding whether to take up the matter with President Carter.

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## Senator Kennedy must win in Pennsylvania

Continued from page 1

and Jerry Brown was the first to go.

Mr Anderson hinted again last night that he might abandon the Republican Party and go it alone. If he wants to get on the ballot in all the states he might conceivably win, he will have to make the plunge soon.

Senator Kennedy never really hoped to win in Wisconsin partly because of competition from Mr Brown and Mr Anderson, partly because Wisconsin, despite its liberal image, is really a very conservative state.

He only campaigned here on Sunday and Monday and had little or no organization. He did well in Milwaukee, as expected, but that was not

enough to counter the lack of confidence felt for him among the dairy farmers.

One of the television networks interviewed people as they left the polling station and found that over half the Democrats they questioned had a "high trust" for President Carter's handling of economic and foreign policies.

Only a third had a "high trust" of Senator Kennedy in these matters.

This is almost exactly the opposite of the same network's findings after the New York primary a week ago. The President's supporters hope that the New York and Connecticut defeats were the nadir of his campaign and an exception to the general rule that people still trust the President more

than they trust Senator Kennedy.

The next primary is in Louisiana on Saturday and Mr Reagan and Mr Carter expect to win easily.

Then there is a lull for the

WISCONSIN

Democrats	%	Votes cast
Carter	56	348,518
Kennedy	30	187,109
Brown	12	77,248

Republicans

%	Votes cast	
Reagan	40	360,314
Bush	31	274,383
Anderson	28	246,746

99% of the votes have been counted.

KANSAS

Democrats	%	Votes cast
Carter	57	108,651
Kennedy	32	60,649
Brown	5	9,362

Republicans

%	Votes cast	
Reagan	63	178,068
Anderson	18	51,504
Bush	13	35,412

All the votes have been counted.

Easter holiday and the tight schedules on April 22 in Pennsylvania. This is another major eastern industrial state and Mr Kennedy has to win if he is to keep alive his hopes of beating the President.

Then there is a lull for the

workers. They met on a building site and although they now have two sons, the wife still shovels concrete and moves rubble.

Ultimately there will be 200 houses on the four-acre site, 11 miles from the centre of Bangkok, which cost £115,000. A West German charity lent the money to buy the land and the Netherlands Government provided water supplies, drainage, sewerage and roads.

The Thai Government Housing Bank provides funds for the building and arranges mortgages; other assistance comes from an international housing service based in Chile. The Asian Institute of Technology provides technical and management assistance.

When the first 20 houses are completed, prospective owners of the second 20 will move onto the site to begin building, assisted by the first group and eight experts in charge of construction. Outside volunteers also contribute labour to the project.

Each house stands on a plot of land measuring 40x by 16ft. There are two rooms on the upper storey and the lower floor is left open for future development, probably some home industry or craft to supplement family incomes. Private, detached houses being built nearby are selling for £15,000 to £20,000.

## Defecting Russian dancer flies back to Moscow

From David Cross, Washington, April 2

A Soviet ballet dancer who defected to the West just over two months ago and seemed to be enjoying a new life in the United States has returned to Moscow under unusual circumstances.

Friends of Yuri Stepanov, the dancer, believe he was pressured by the Soviet authorities into returning home, although State Department officials here say they have no evidence that this was the case.

Mr Stepanov, who is aged 32, was a soloist with the Moscow Academy Ballet when he left the troupe in Rome in late January and sought asylum in the American Embassy in Rome.

He later came to the United States and began working for the New Jersey Ballet.

When he arrived in the United States he was put in touch with Mr Yuri Vozorov, a Jewish ballet teacher and choreographer, who was allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union five years ago. Mr Vozorov, who taught Mr Stepanov when they were both in Moscow, offered his former student lodgings. They spent about a month together.

Mr Vozorov told reporters yesterday that he was absolutely certain that Mr Stepanov wanted to remain in the United States. Mr Stepanov had told him he was glad to be out of the Soviet Union and had been planning his defection for the past five years.

His sudden decision to return to Moscow apparently came after a visit to a bookshop in New York which specializes in Russian-language publications and which is a meeting place for Russian émigrés. It is generally assumed that Soviet officials monitor such visits and may have spoken to Mr Stepanov.

According to Mr Vozorov, his former student returned from

## Rhodesia fighters offered British training

From Nicholas Ashford, Salisbury, April 2

Soldiers from an independent Zimbabwe may soon be joining the British Army for training and to gain experience of conventional as opposed to guerrilla warfare.

It was announced today that as part of Britain's military aid to Zimbabwe, individual attachments will be made by members of the Zimbabwe armed forces to the British armed forces.

Details have still to be worked out, and these and other matters of military cooperation are at present being examined by Major-General Eddie Fursdon, the military advisor to Lord Soames, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia. It is possible that Zimbabweans may also be offered places at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and at the Staff College, Camberley.

There are still about 30 British soldiers in Zimbabwe helping to train former Zania and Zipra guerrillas who are being integrated with the Rhodesian security forces.

About 650 Zipra fighters and a slightly smaller number from Zania are in this operation which is taking place at a barracks in Bulawayo and at Balla Balla camp, south-east of Bulawayo.

Assistance of a pacific nature was discussed today between Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister designate,



## Overseas Mrs Gandhi tends her policy on Afghanistan

Richard Wigg  
April 2

Gandhi, the Prime Minister, told the United States that she believed the Union would lessen its role in Afghanistan only if there were no moves by "the super power" to make it feel encircled.

Examples of such encirclement, Mrs Gandhi said, were American plans for a new expedition on the Indian Ocean, and plans to build a new base in the Gulf region.

Gandhi, who was speaking to a group of journalists at the Ministry of Mass Communication, said that the State was planning to build a base in the Gulf region.

Mr Raj Narain, until now executive president of the Lok Sabha, which broke away from the Janata party last year when the Desai government collapsed, last night blithely "discovered" his own party in retaliation for his expulsion from the party ranks by Mr Charan Singh, the former premier, who now leads the largest opposition group in Parliament.

One day before, the third person in the trio, Mr Jagjivan Ram, who voluntarily gave up leading the Janata party early last month, had indulged in similar posturing. When he quit he announced he would launch a new party but after a Delhi congress last weekend which was a signal flop in terms of backers, Mr Ram simply had himself declared the leader of the "real" Janata party.



Exiled at a tender age, bright-faced girls in a tent city near Peshawar are three among an estimated 500,000 Afghan refugees living at camps across the Pakistan border.

## Three more hasten dying convulsions of Janata

From Our Own Correspondent

Delhi, April 2—A few days ago Mr Acharya Kripalani, the Indian elder statesman who with the late Mr J. P. Narayan helped to create the Janata party, said: "The situation in that party is such that anybody can talk any amount of nonsense." Three of the leading personalities of India's former ruling party have rushed to prove that observation correct.

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## Swiss rebuke equestrian chief for jumping gun

Zurich, April 2—Switzerland's National Olympic Committee reacted angrily today to the decision by the Swiss Equestrian Federation to boycott the Moscow Olympics.

A committee spokesman said the decision would not influence the other 15 sports federations whose members mainly favour going to the games.

"We asked the federations not to announce their decisions until after our general assembly on May 10," said Mr Karl Erb, for the committee.

Mr Erb claimed the decision of the federation did not reflect the wishes of the majority of the equestrian team. "This is the really annoying thing. We are convinced the decision of the federation's executive committee was made under the influence of the president."

Mr Guy Sarasin, the equestrian president, said it was "nonsense" to suggest he was behind the decision of his executive committee. "The vote was seven to one, with one abstention. I don't call that a one-person move."

Mr Sarasin agreed that most of their riders probably still favoured going to the games, but added: "The decision was not taken by the competitors who only take their own personal situation into account."

"It is not for them to decide. Otherwise what is the point of having any directive body at all?" —AP.

## World View

## Initiatives by Italian Communists pose a problem for Moscow

By Arrigo Levi

The governments, the cultural elites, the political forces of the West are going, right now, through a soul-searching debate, whose theme is how to adjust to the new challenges of the 1980s, coming from the Soviet Union, from the Third World and from inside our own societies. No wonder that, at a time of change, the frontier parties of Europe, like the French and Italian communist parties, should undergo special stresses. Their reactions to the domestic and international crises are equally traumatic, even though the same reasons seem to be pushing one party towards the East, the other one towards the West.

### Establishing links with non-aligned

It would be unwise, at this stage, to try and draw a fully coherent picture of what is going on. But a lot is certainly going on. What has happened is that the PCI (Italian Communist Party), under Signor Berlinguer, is again on the move. For once, instead of purely reacting to events, it has taken a series of political initiatives.

The new line is "in full swing", as Signor Giancarlo Pajetta recently said. And it all concerns international relations. The "new line" follows two directions. The first one has already been defined as "a search for the Euroleft". The second one aims at establishing new links with the non-aligned world. The first search has already led Signor Berlinguer to meetings with the Socialist leaders of Spain, Portugal, Germany (Brandt) and France (Mitterrand); talks with Scandinavian Socialists are also going to take place, while Signor Giorgio Napolitano has bravely preached the Eurocommunist-Euroleft doctrine in London.

In a speech at Chatham House and in meetings with Labour Party representatives, following the second direction, the PCI has sent missions to Algeria and Zimbabwe and

a delegation to see Mrs Indira Gandhi, and is strongly supporting Nicaraguan Sandinistas and the Polisario, while keeping in strict touch with Belgrade. And of course, Signor Berlinguer is going to Peking.

All this has so far provoked M Marchais's bitter criticism of the Berlinguer-Mitterrand meeting, and some signals of disapproval from Moscow of the Peking trip. The Soviet leaders seem to be taking their time in reaching a decision on what to do next. The PCI remains the biggest Communist party in the West: a breach with the PCI would endanger Moscow's courting of Europe, which it aims to convert to the idea of a "limited détente". Berlinguer, though very critical of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, has consistently opposed all Western retaliations and

preaches something similar to non-alignment for Europe. He might still be a useful pawn for Moscow's attempted seduction of Europe. The Soviets may therefore decide that excommunication of this maverick party is still not in their interest. They can trust the old faithful inside the PCI to stop Berlinguer from going too far and they certainly have the means to prevent his influence from spreading in Eastern Europe.

In Europe, both Berlinguer and Marchais could be useful to Moscow, just as Jesus and Domonikos to the church. But I wonder if the other main direction of Berlinguer's new strategy, the search for closer links with the non-aligned, will be considered as equally tolerable by Moscow. Is Berlinguer trying to become Tito's successor as head of the non-aligned communists? He has categorically condemned Moscow's interpretation of "international solidarity", as practised in Afghanistan. As an alternative to it, his party preaches a "new internationalism", which may become an open and dangerous challenge to Soviet imperial policy. All that, plus the trip to Peking, may finally be con-

sidered intolerable by Moscow: an excommunication of the PCI might be considered less costly than this new threat from the inside to Moscow's control of the non-aligned movement.

But what is Berlinguer after? The official explanations refer to the need to defend détente in Europe and the world, and to create a left alternative in Europe to domination of the community by the right. The PCI, a party with enormous pride and ambitions, declares that it wants to take part in the opening of "a new historic phase" in Western Europe: hence the step forward from Eurocommunism to the "Euroleft", which was made possible by the "democratic choices" of the PCI in recent years. It is therefore considered certain that the PCI will refuse to take part in this month's conference of European Communist parties of East and West, proposed, under Soviet prodding by Marchais and the Polish Communists. This might be a momentous turning point, or even a point of no-return; the Spanish and Yugoslav Communists have already indicated that they will also stay at home.

### Seeking the way to government power

In addition to its great European and global aims, the PCI is also looking for "legitimation" as a bona fide democratic party through the European Social Democrats: will this open to Berlinguer the doors of government power, which the Christian Democrats have so far kept jealously closed? At the same time, the new links with China and the Third World would legitimize the PCI as a bona fide revolutionary party. So, the PCI continues to follow coherently its contradictory destiny. Is it also aiming, more or less consciously, for a Soviet excommunication (an expulsion from the father's house), as a liberating act which would free it of its past?

© Times Newspapers, 1980.

## Boops out in riot-torn Assam

1. April 2.—Troops parts of India's Assam by as students leading all agitation rejected meat offer of compromise the unrest.

is said the district of where two people going on Monday and troops were parolling as quiet but tense.

were standing by in the state where 90 people have been agitation since Sep-

thula Kumar Mahanta, dent of the All-Assam Union which has led youth agitation, today a government offer to township only to those

Bengali immigrants who were residing in Assam since 1967. Mr L. P. Singh, the governor, was reported to have made the offer at a meeting with students in the state capital of Gauhati last night.

Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government had previously insisted on declaring 1971 as the decisive year, while the students are demanding that all Bengalis and others who settled in the state after 1951 should be declared illegal immigrants and deported.

The Army has been called in the past six months to try to stop the arson and rioting that have left 15,000 people homeless.

The students today intensified their picketing of an oil pipeline running through Assam. The flow of crude oil to the rest of the country has been blocked by the picketing and there is a shortage of diesel fuel and kerosene throughout India.

Assam produces 5.5 million tonnes of crude oil a year which is processed at three refineries in the state and one in neighbouring Bihar.

The students say their aim is to prevent the Assamese from becoming a minority in their own state. They say that illegal immigrants from West Bengal, Bangladesh and Nepal form nearly 40 per cent of the state's population of 15 million.—Reuters.

## Nepal sets date for vote on political system

Katmandu, April 2.—Nepal will hold its first referendum on May 2, to decide whether to adopt a new political system or retain the old, the National Election Commission said today.

Leaders of both opposition and ruling parties acclaimed the decision that will allow 7.2 million voters to decide whether to keep the present partyless panchayat system of government or reintroduce multi-party democracy.

King Birendra ordered the referendum last May after rioting. The Government had mobilised 25,000 civil servants to supervise the election.—UPI.

Before leaving Islamabad, Mr Marten met Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the Pakistani Finance Minister, and Mr Agha Shahi, who is President Zia ul-Baq's foreign adviser.—Reuters.

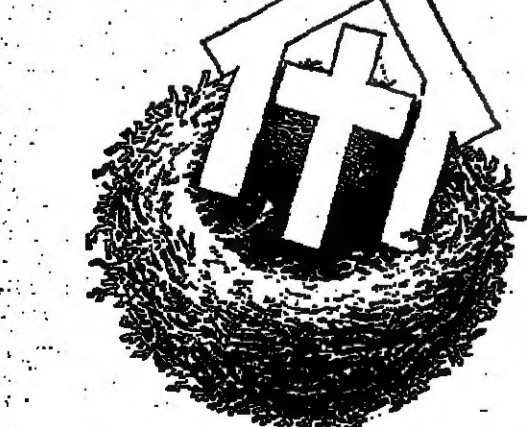
**Correction**  
The Civil Service Staff College is at Shrimadale and not at Henley-on-Thames as stated in a report from Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, on March 20. The Administrative Staff College at Henley is an independent organization and has no connexion with the Civil Service.

## New: Wide-body bus trips to Hamburg and Munich.



Starting in April/May, in addition to our regular Düsseldorf and Frankfurt Airbus flights you can also enjoy the quiet and roominess of the A 300 whenever you fly to Hamburg (departing daily) or Munich (departing Tuesdays and Thursdays). For further information contact your local Lufthansa office or your IATA travel agency.

## In Easter 'nest-egg' for MHA



**Have a care for the eighties**  
MHA launches this Easter its project to build 20 flats (doubles and singles) at Penrith in Cumbria. A fine dwelling in a 3-acre site will provide this exciting Sheltered Housing development with staff accommodation and community facilities at a cost of £400,000. Work will commence in the spring of 1981 providing money is available.

A generous Easter donation for Penrith will give a good start to MHA's campaign to double its caring capacity by 1990.  
Please send your gift to the Rt Hon. George Thomas MP, "Penrith Project" Methodist Homes for the Aged, Dept. 1, Freeport, London SW1P 3BR.

**METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED**  
11 Tufton Street Westminster London SW1P 3BD  
General Secretary Brian Callin M.A. B.Sc.  
Pastoral Secretary Rev Norman J. Richardson

**Lufthansa**  
German Airlines



## NEW BOOKS

## The eye of the world

Nietzsche

A Critical Life

By Ronald Hayman

(Weidenfeld &amp; Nicolson £18.50)

Whoever saw him in the tenth years of his madness, wrote Rudolf Steiner, had the impression that this man could not die, but that his eye would rest for a moment upon mankind and the whole world of appearance.

The tortured existence and the visionary divinations of Friedrich Nietzsche touch the history, art, politics and personal behaviour of the modern age so closely and in so many ways that a new popular but scholarly life in English has long been overdue. Ronald Hayman has provided it. This Nietzsche is an intelligent and often moving account which deserves to be rescued as soon as possible from its prohibitive pricing and placed in the Penguin imprint which has been showing considerable interest in Nietzsche over the past few years.

Nietzsche's writings are intensely autobiographical and the study of his life can only illuminate further, their disturbing imaginative power. Very few artists—and it is hard not to feel after reading Mr Hayman that Nietzsche was, above all, an artist—have related their thought and work so closely to the state of their own body and mind. To tell his story is to tell the story of the brain disease—probably but not quite conclusively, says Hayman, hereditary syphilis—terrifying headaches and poor eyesight to near-blindness which afflicted him from adolescence on. It is a terrible story but not, somehow, a depressing one.

For Nietzsche turned poor health into a positive virtue, and believed that only in sickness and suffering could a man see clearly what was wrong.

His fragmentary prose style was partly conditioned by recurring pain and the act of writing expelled the poisons from the body: "frightening, very black, almost ink-fish" was his own description of *Beyond Good and Evil* (1886-6). Yet friends envied his philosopher's precarious isolation, finding him difficult, but courageous and inspiring. He was a copious and revealing correspondent and far from humourless about himself:

"The most placid, the most reasonable man, so long as he has a big moustache, can sit quietly in its shade—as the accessory of a big moustache he will give most people the impression of being military, irascible and sometimes violent, and behave accordingly."

Simply to think of Nietzsche is to conjure not only that evasive moustache but the whole great undefended head and brow, electrically tensed around glowing eyes which either saw too dimly—he travelled across Europe from Venice to Montebello and the Engadin to Nice in order to find dark enough woods and a quality of light they could sustain—or too far: "They looked... inwards," remarked Lou Salomé, the intellectual's moll and later friend of Freud, whom Nietzsche once proposed marriage "as if into the distance."

Too much looking inward into the distance led to escape through insanity, perhaps a little feigned at first, like Hamlet's, but real enough in the end. "I have ordered a convocation of princes in Rome," he announced to Strindberg as the crisis gathered around Christmas 1888 (why was he always so ill at Christmas?). "I want to have the young Kaiser shot," he wrote the letter "Nietzsche Caesar". Strindberg replied in Latin and Greek: "I want, I want to be mad".

... Meanwhile it is a joy to be mad", signing off Strindberg with the optimistic, manicured "Nietzsche". A scene of truly appalling play-

fulness unfolds as the stricken giants frolic on the very edge of the nineteenth-century world. "Consciousness is a screw without end", Nietzsche had realized earlier; the more you knew the less you could do about it. An important, if negative, discovery, and he had continued to seek, without belief, some pattern to the irrational nature of man.

Hayman defines the heart of Nietzsche's achievement even more simply: "Nietzsche taught the truth that we have to live without truth". Ranging backwards to Schopenhauer and Blake, and forwards to Eliot and Freud, he is a gifted and helpful summarizer who makes the ceaseless shifts in Nietzsche's thinking accessible to the general reader without, as far as I can see, oversimplifying them. I lack the training to follow philosophical arguments closely, and I did not expect to understand all Hayman was saying on a first reading of his book: I am grateful to him that I did much better than usual.

A precocious classical scholar and professor of philology at 24, Nietzsche himself rejected the classical forms of presentation, in favour of the maxims and fragmentary sublimity of the world. He was an aphorist: "Slavery still exists" (for example) "and anyone who does not have two-thirds of his day for himself is a slave". He is equally good on laughter, the nature of the comic, sincerity and self-preservation, and the cold, devouring advances of modern State. A Prussian patriot in the years of German unification, he came to despise the Prussian Kaiser, the Bismarck's Reich and would, probably, as Hayman says, have hated Hitler's even more.

The concept of politics will be assimilated wholly into ideological warfare, all the power structures of society will be blown up—they are all founded on lies.



Nietzsche in his last year, by Hans Olde.

There will be wars such as there have never been on earth. (Ecce Homo, written 1888).

As there is much to recognize in Nietzsche's writings, there is much capable of misrepresentation, but about the only truly silly thing he is recorded as saying in all of these 360 pages is something about creative people needing to eat meat, and that sounds silly partly because we suspect him of repeating it at second hand, from Wagner.

One is left with the impression from Nietzsche that the philosopher's famous quarrel with Bayreuth—when they had all lived in Switzerland he had been the Wagner's favourite son—arose from Nietzsche's expres-

sed distaste for Wagner's growing intolerance and authoritarianism, and from his own less than ecstatic (or fully attended) reception of the first Ring. (He was, as usual, horribly ill.) Was it as simple as that?

Nietzsche dropped anti-Semitism first, then the rest of the package so completely that he could not bear to listen to Wagner's music and came to believe that Wagner with his dream of reviving the music-drama of the Greeks had instead become the major force preventing the wisdom of Antiquity and the Renaissance from flooding its light where it was so needed, on the greed, vulgarity and mindlessness of the modern world.

Michael Ratcliffe

Egon Ronay, the only non-Fre

member of L'Académie des

Gastronomes of France attacks

fashionable misuse of the ter

cuisine nouvelle.

## New cooking for old

Cuisine nouvelle, contrary to how it is frequently described, is no revolution. The phenomena thus named simply amount to a period in the continuous development of French cooking—part of an evolution which the now world-famous epithet simply froze in time. It is an intriguing still from the absorbing film of the history of French cuisine.

This history is a series of *nouvelles cuisines*. As Escoffier said, *cuisine* reflects its era, so it cannot help being contemporary.

Besides, *cuisine nouvelle* is a misnomer, originating from the honest sensationalism of its godfathers, Gault and Millau, the famous guide publishers and gastronomic journalists. The phrase they invented now pervades gastronomic writing all over the world. In this country the enthusiasm of neophytes has led to nothing but more or less confused articles.

Current culinary developments, which have come to be known under the name coined in a flash of journalistic inspiration, were influenced among other things by facts of our contemporary life: less time for preparation, more consciousness and conscience about heavy and rich food, etc.

At times in gastronomic history a few inventive artists create new dishes, new ways, new combinations. Just as when the first *Vichyssoise* was made; or when Escoffier seized upon fresh peaches and raspberries for Dame Nellie Melba who arrived, after her performance, too late for anything more traditional; or when the first wild duck was pressed for its juices; or when Fernand Point at Vienne first succeeded in rolling together foie gras and brioche adhesively; or, more recently, when Paul Bocuse thought of making a soup of truffles and keeping in the aroma with a light pastry dome.

Had Gault and Millau lived in Cesar Ritz's time, the results of the organizational and inventive genius Escoffier brought to French cooking of the day would now surely be known as *cuisine nouvelle* and its name would be history. Nor would we now be brainwashed constantly with the phrase as used by the fast-moving media which pick up developments so rapidly.

While it is true that Michel Guérard's *cuisine minceur* was created for slimmers, a few of its inspirational elements, for example using

purée of mushroom thickening agent, much wider use and of the *cuisine minceur*.

Guérard is one of three or four really creative geniuses in today (with the inclusion of Girardin, Swiss, and I like a composer prepped by hundreds of conductors. But even conductors of most music have to learn a few first.

In the end all novelties must pass, some test in order that of the palate—of fashion, book, or figures or media—culinary superstars.

The decline in the flour in sauces, the anarchy of marinade, the almost Japanese mass of dishes are the trends that the new movement Claude Joly, Francis, gastronomic tutor, prefers to de a "state of mind", naively dogmatic to these trends into commandments of porary cooking, ever healthier.

There is only a touchstone: does it taste better than concoction made did? When I am transp the *civet de homar* wine or a *piéd d'ail* at Tante Claire, and not "nou style", I couldn't whether chef Koffin follower of the *cuis elle* (as he said) is

Bernard Gaume means-light *steak* in a rich red wine the Chelsea Room, the most enjoyable traditional in style he, too, is apparent into the new school. Good taste at knowledge are two different matters: broken bread with erable experts, well-informed about of food and wine, a small minority enjoyed—and for reasons—what they ing or drinking a legitimately be c gastronomes, or gourm it is to the latter the greatest chefs play.

*Ancienne, tradi, haute nouvelle, ev—only one thing cuisine has to be bo The Times Cook Crawford Poole is a and will be back n*

## War in back alleys

The Man who Kept the Secrets

By Thomas Powers

(Weidenfeld &amp; Nicolson, £10)

Mr Richard Helms, the former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, kept the secrets so well that he still remains a shadowy figure at the end of this book. Perhaps that is inevitable, as the book says Helms was the quintessential CIA man, but Mr Powers has succeeded in writing the best book I have read on the agency.

Helms spent most of his adult life in the shadows, serving his apprenticeship in the wartime Office of Strategic Services before joining the agency when it was established in 1947 as part of the Executive Office of the President. This explains much. In law and in fact the CIA has been the personal instrument of successive Presidents, and it is Helms the moral justification for doing what he was required to do. As he was fond of saying, he served the President.

It must have been comforting, but long before Nixon and Watergate the illicit presidential demands should have warned him that simple loyalty was not enough. To be fair, Helms did not like messy operations such as assassination, if only because murder will out, but when President Kennedy and his brother wanted to get rid of Castro and other frustrating foreigners the agency complied with varying degrees of enthusiasm.

Successive Presidents used this tactic of violence in the first instance because they were denied overt intervention, as once practised by imperial Britain, by the countervailing super-power of the Soviet Union. Arguably they had cause, because the balance of power had to be maintained if the threat of nuclear war was to be avoided, and the Russians played the same dirty game.

The CIA could be seen as the front-line soldiers in the external struggle with the anti-Christ, and for many years later-day critics were its most fervent admirers and defenders. I can remember Richard Bissell, who organized the Cuban invasion, afterwards telling American journalists that they had a duty to cooperate with the agency and not one of them demurred. Congress also cooperated by providing the money without asking questions.

The agency also had a moral appeal, and it is recalled that Kennedy's favourite reading was the James Bond stories. Even Dean Rusk, his Secretary of State and a most honourable man, accepted what he once described as the war fought in the back alleys of the world. That said, the availability and secrecy of the CIA encouraged Presidents to ignore the restraints imposed by the Constitution and the bounds of decent behaviour. They were corrupted by only men with almost limitless power and no accountability can be corrupted.

Mr Powers, who has his

share of old-fashioned rectitude, handles this with impressive objectivity. He acknowledges the role of the CIA in maintaining the peace, but his personal disgust, still very much under control, emerges at the end of the book.

The investigation of the Church by the Senate, left the Senate with a feeling of shame. It was not only the aims, or even the failures of American policy which generated this mood, nor the excesses of the CIA in its zeal to do the President's bidding, but rather the melancholy discovery that American policy had been so often callous, reckless and offhand.

The agency might protest its ultimate innocence of murder. Nevertheless, it lingers on, a pleasant surprise, about medical experiments on unsuspecting victims, attempts to infect Castro and Lumbumba with disease, the funding and technical guidance of police organizations which tortured and killed local opponents, and support and then abandonment of tribal groups in hidden wars.

Mr Powers hopes that Congressional oversight will prevent future excesses, but knows that the habits of power are not easily broken. As for the Senate's intelligence committee might eventually join an expanded circle of policymakers who determine the American role in the world, and keep the secrets of the future as their predecessors did those of the past. As for Helms, he did keep the secrets to the end and was left worrying about his pension rights.

Louis Heren

## Modulations on a theme

To Keep the Ball Rolling

Volume 3. Faces in My Time

By Anthony Powell

(Heinemann, £8.50)

The third volume of Anthony Powell's memoirs carries him from his marriage to Lady Violet Pakenham in 1934 (a happy and continuing one, which makes a nice change) to the publication in 1951 of *A Question of Uprighting*, first salvo in the endlessly delightful barrage of novels to which he gave the general title: "A Dance to the Music of Time". In between come two main sections: a night-writing in Hollywood, and the war—and so, you might suppose, a startling, Beethovenish modulation in tonality from Goldwyn to Göddammerung.

But not a bit of it. Mr Powell's war was not of the tank-busting, beach-landing kind—after all, he was in his thirty-fifth year when it started: it was spent, for the most part, and very usefully spent—in MIL (Military Intelligence, Liaison). And this gave him the chance, well demonstrated in this book, to exercise his strong talent for sharp-eyed, light-fingered observation of the British upper class having its final fling before the slow extinguishment which set in with Atlee's solid victory in the General Election of 1945.

He has a revealing parenthesis on page 100: "When I wrote about Welsh troops in *The Valley of Bones* and *The Soldier's Art* (books that throw more light on the experience

than can be achieved in memoirs)... This is as much as to say that his attitude to memoir-writing is not that of La Rochefoucauld, who shaped his "Memoires" and "Maximes" slowly and passionately, built into them all his experience, and created a world. Mr Powell reserves his serious pronouncements for his novels: his memoirs are to be gossip, relaxed and entertaining.

Gossipy and entertaining they certainly are. The portraits are excellent and very numerous—two most notably full of insight and affection of Scott Fitzgerald and Malcolm Muggeridge: there is also an admirable conversation-piece of the Authors Club in its immediate post-war years, when Douglas Jerrold was very much the pilot-in-charge, a man much more intimidating on first acquaintance than he turned out to be later on. Forgotten novelists are fished out of limbo—Geoffrey Dennis and John Loddwick, for example—and for this gratitude should be expressed even though he rates neither of them as highly as I would.

But are they relaxed? Perhaps not quite that, because his writing can sometimes be convoluted and loose both at once. But you do not have to wait long before the wit shines through. ... Connolly's editorship in the closing years of *Horizon* was of a kind of Pentheus in reverse, a man held together by Menaids, rather than torn asunder by those ladies.

David Williams

## Here's a pound

The Henry Root letters

(Weidenfeld &amp; Nicolson, £4.50)

"Here's a pound. Use it to enforce Law and Order", writes Mr Root, amid much more, to Sir David McNea of New Scotland Yard, his letter laced as usual with startling precepts ("Better than ten innocent men be convicted than that one guilty man goes free") and fictions cited as fact ("Gumman Holes Up in Village Pub Shot Dead by 392 Policemen").

Just another nut? Better play safe. Henry must hug himself as the replies flow in, turning the other cheek to his buoyant onslaughts, sending the signed photograph as requested, often trying to meet with reason his knowingly doctored recommendations, to the First Sea Lord, for instance, that he name a firm date for war with Russia. "Let's not have a cock-up like last time", returning the pound with grace. Not all the pounds came back. Mrs Thatcher, a recurring beneficiary always addressed as "Dear Leader", hangs on to hers for the party funds. So does Henry's hapless MP, drawn into much correspondence, even to an assurance that his marriage is solid, which Henry is glad to know. ("Here's another pound").

And not all topics are political. When the Greek Consulate disowns responsibility for the shop-window advertiser, "Greek masseuse, Full Theatrical Wardrobe", claimed to have damaged Mrs Root's back, her husband demands action from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He doesn't get it, any more than he gets Anna Ford's likeness out of Angela Ripston, but the reply is charming, and hopes Mrs Root's back is better.

Many answers in person: Sir James Goldsmith, regrettably too busy to lunch; the Senior Tutor of Magdalen, declining somewhat brusquely the proposed endowment of Henry Root Wet Fish Ltd Memorial Library; President Zia of Pakistan, responding to veiled effronteries ("A backward nation such as yours needs the smack of firm government") with a note ending generally: "Wishing you all the best".

But it is a Lady in Waiting who answers for the Queen, generously explaining palace policy on photograph distribution, though ignoring the plea that Her Majesty should support Mrs Thatcher. Even more disappointing, a later note of sympathy over "the trouble you are having with Princess Anne, my Doreen (19) is off the rails too, so I know what it's like", only reaps a form acknowledgment. That could be the best way. You can get terribly involved otherwise.

It's lucky that others are less Root-proof. Mr Root has missed a lot of fun. The Letters have their own mad splendour, but need the complement of their wondrously po-faced replies. If Henry is a nut, and I'd have to bet on that, most of his victims come out twice as nutty, from the Department of Trade, "unable to advise" whether he should acquire the firm of Jonathan Cape, to Mrs Whitehouse's prim denial that she ever had her knickers pulled down outside the Old Bailey.

It deserves to be bought by all who know a laugh when they see one. Here's a pound.

Tom Hutchinson

Basil Boothroyd

## Fiction

Left-Handed Woman

By Peter Handke

(Eyre Methuen, £4.95)

Kingdom Come

By Melvyn Bragg

(Secker &amp; Warburg, £6.50)

Summer People

By Janice Elliott

(Hodder &amp; Stoughton, £3.95)

I like short novels.

It is excellent.

The style is taut and austere. The author's attitude to his characters is clinical and cold. And yet, on this skeletal framework, Mr Handke has hung a rich, warm, glowing tapestry of vivid insights and deep concerns into the nature of human relationships.

The setting is Germany. A husband returns home from a business trip to Finland. He is greeted by his wife and child. The greeting is cool and distant. It is menacing, too. They book a room in an hotel to celebrate their reunion.

In the morning the woman says to her husband:

"Go away, Bruno. Leave me."

The husband says:

"For good?"

They stand silently for a while.

Then the husband smiles and says: "We first fly just to back to the hotel and get myself a cup of hot coffee. And this afternoon I'll come and take my things."

So, deadpan and abrupt, the marriage is ended.

And in his severe and laconic manner Mr Handke proceeds to explore the reasons for the breakdown, and the reasons for the failure of the reconciliation attempt.

The process is like looking at yourself through the back of a mirror—the image examining the reality.

The opposite of happiness is not unhappiness—it is a cold and a shadow, and the whispers, insubstantial, brooding, but made unbearably potent and threatening by the positive emotions they parody.

The novel, too, is a devastating portrayal of small-town Germany. People do not live in bungalows. They live in "Housing units".

The woman looks at her "unit" and sighs:

"Sometimes I wish we had a smelly pizza place outside the door, or a news stand. It is a brilliant, compelling and disturbing book, powerful and significant and written with superb style."

Mr Bragg's novel is very much longer.

It is rather a plod.

The publishers call it an ambitious novel. In truth its format and style is deeply conventional. There is nothing wrong with that, of course. Mr Bragg is an excellent craftsman. He knows how to handle a large cast of characters. He knows how to tell a story. What he hasn't brought into this book is sparkle, excitement and verve. It's rather drab.

The central character is Douglas, an out and out media man, writer, interviewer and personality.

He's Cambrian.

He flies home from America to celebrate New Year at the family home with his mother and father, his rascally cousin, Lester, and his adopted brother, Harry. The novel starts off by examining with equal favour the lives of these three men. Douglas's marriage is breaking up. Lester is on the look-out for a quick buck in the pop music world of London. Harry plods his lonely furrow on the native heath. But very soon the character of Douglas begins to dominate the book. And this is the problem—Douglas is a very boring man. His life style is

boring. His predicament is boring. And so the book itself becomes dangerously boring for long, arid stretches.

It's saved by the character of Harry and the astute and satirical examination of the Cambrian town of Thurston, which has featured so prominently and successfully in Mr Bragg's earlier novels.

Here on his home ground Mr Bragg's touch is sure and confident. The dialogue is splendid. The characters are warm and buoyant. I suspect that Mr Bragg has allowed himself to be carried away by his involvement with his media man. I am convinced that a series of novels, proving what he has produced a much more satisfying and entertaining novel.

Janice Elliott's *Summer* People needs nothing doing to it.

It is perfection.

How simple it all seems on the surface. The summer people gather for the holiday season at their homes by the seaside.

For a moment it appears that they are conventional Uddike figures, transported across the Atlantic to establish an atmosphere of threat and unease. When precisely does the action take place? Why do terms die in rock pools? Why is the tanker wrecked on the sand bar? Relationships begin to fall apart. An outwardly loving, fulfilled marriage crumbles and cracks.

There is a violent death.

Two young people fall in love.

Gradually a complex and beautifully modulated picture is built up of a society crumbling in on itself yet pursuing a vitality of its own that is curiously independent of the lives of the people who inhabit it. It is a brilliant, imaginative work. Everything about it shimmers with quality of the highest order.

I loved it.

Peter Tinniswood

## Science fiction

The number of the Beast

By Robert A. Heinlein

(New English Library, £6.95)

Of course one leads with a Heinlein. There aren't many to take precedence over a writer who, at 73, is one of SF's most distinguished and opinionated citizens. But who would have thought the old crust to have so much marshmallow under it? Where is the tough-tongued, lyrical prose once made me compare him here with film director John Ford? Certainly, this alternative-universe theme is worked out with spectacular efficiency, relating the spacetime coordinates to the number of the Beast of Revelations, 666, and the alien characters are themselves revealed with bizarre humour shifting to sinister grotesquerie. And, again, he is entitled to have his private jokes about others in the field of science fiction—Edgar Rice Burroughs and Arthur C. Clarke are but two.

But what should be a swirl of action over a kind of pantheistic treatise around the four principal characters, the mathematician who has invented the time-twisting device, his daughter and her lover, and the mathematician's own woman. There is the usual swipe at Heinlein aversions such as "building codes, union rules and zoning laws" but the treatment of sexual matters is downright embarrassing in its coyness, rather like an uninhibited Dean Farrar, What with a computer called Gay Deceiver and everybody so lovable that "Pops" becomes a four-letter word to one's exasperated imagination the only antidote is to read *The Unpleasant Profession of Jonathan Hoag*. Now there was glory for you!

Does Anyone Else Have Something Further To Add? by R. A. Lafferty (Dobson, £3.25). As a fabulist the writer is one of the most extraordinary working in the genre today, springing the trap to despair just as we step on to the platform of his quirky humour. These stories have a quite singular flavour: try "About A Secret Crocodile" for a taste of his style. It's addictive.

The Deep Gods, by David Mason (Hale, £4.80). Rather clotted prose, but a really deeply-felt idea that surges inward taking us with it, about a time when men and fish might be "linked" in the land of Eleanora.

Engine Summer, by John Crowley (Gollancz, £4.95). Another landscape of myth, but wrought with real distinction, in an age that looks back to men as "angels", and a pilgrim on a progress to self-enlightenment finds past connections aligning with the present.

New Soviet Science Fiction, introduced by Theodore Sturgeon (Collier-Macmillan, £6.25). Russian SF has indeed moved a long way from the early hardware-riddled days: science is no longer the ultimate saviour, humanity can be flawed, a sense of loss cannot be ignored. Every story in this collection has a vitality which makes them very readable.

The Luck Machine, by E. C. Tubb (Dobson, £4.95). The title displays the story's intention: luck is treated as a form of energy, but the tension is in realizing that there are polarities: good luck here means bad luck there. Good, solid detail.

Motherlode, by Suzi McKee Charnas (Gollancz, £3.95). An extension of the author's "Walk To The End Of The World", a kind of women's lib fantasy about an escape from Haddas by the woman Alldreda, fleeing from male slave-masters. Attractively written, but so loaded it dits.

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## Price wise again

Today *The Times* begins a new monthly survey of food prices. Its aim is to indicate the state of food inflation now that the Government has quietly dismantled all of its predecessor's monitoring equipment.

The monthly survey of fresh fruit and vegetables by the Price Commission ceased last year. Callers who telephone what used to be the number for the food prices



# Fashion

by  
Prudence Glynn

Left: The dramatic. Backless plastic breastplate and draped silk drawers, magnificent ridged batwing coat. Issy Miyake  
Photographs by Harry Korr



Above left: The American influence; very important both in the shops and on the catwalk. Texan boots, fringed furs, shiny leathers.  
Above right: The Florentine fight look. Bloused silver lame jacket (Chloe)



Above left: Winterhalter. Ruffles, taffeta, ankle length, romantic  
Above right: Spotted fake furs. Ugh. There were lots.

The knit mini.

## Paris looks over her boulder

...that can happen... Mr. Nureyev... is that... a bit sore. We were at ballet school never to catch a dancer who calculated her leap, for you that it can break it."

as as ever to bring to the views, however of the mighty, I had a my dinner partner, a poem of fashion in a minute of black collared suit, white checked sweater and fur about the speed at name Margot or who checked at him across to. It was Paris, and... of the Collections. "ot everything checked n Paris, and unfortun- it rather less than the f the nimble Dams, so ough not having I hone. dated my leaps, I still a sore bottom. A con- is that one knows y well that a third of tack we sat through ver be made and is here to distract the less e press.

that there is nothing to say in fashion, the century having every silhouette since leaf? Or is it that even

with the new generation of shoppers there are fewer left to bear or care?

Skirts. Every length from mini to maxi. The mini is best in short cabled stitch knits, worn with thick woolly tights and soft suede boots (Miyake). It has a waist, this time around, a leather belt usually, and it is very informal, the opposite of the Courreges carapace. Or it is a blouson jacket. Then, there is the neatly pleated skirt to just below the knee (several one) or the mid calf length dirndle. Evening dresses are ankle length. And the dirndle mini.

Trousers. Plus fours, pedal pushers, ankle cuffed evening pants, but most important the return of the just above the knee length culottes. A few shorts worn with midi coats.

Coats. Mid thigh length car coats, or that new short bridge jacket or bolero cut straight to above the waist and edge to edge.

The mood. Empress Elizabeth and the Austro-Hungarian empire. Corded embroidery on velvet, upper-crust peasant influence from there and from North Africa (St. Laurent). Military greatcoats military pockets (St. Laurent). Very masculine. Black tuxedos, the parking warden look. Schmalitz or aggressive. Vits Sackville-West hats. A wild exuberance at JAP. The prices. Astronomic. A minimum comicent of \$20,000 or \$25,000 per house for buyers.

The fabrics. Velvet, moire taffeta, heavy knits shot through with lurex. Quilting. We shall all by

autumn look like M. Bibendum. Glacé leather. Claret furs (Dior).

Colours. Black, and black and more black, or Florentine page boy: huge blocks of plain primaries and plain secondaries joggled together with complete indifference and wonderful effect. Claret with gold, navy with black, scarlet with purple.

Shape. The little schoolgirl tshard dress is the only fresh look for Paris. It has, of course, been done elsewhere, but translated into a more formal look it has an appeal. The dress is cut from a square yoke and falls into three tiers, each one outlined in fringe. It looks like all those stories about schoolgirl mothers might be true.

Safe and pretty. Jean-Louis Scherrer, who just understands what the ladies want, and likes them and wants them to look pretty.

A wital. Tarty mads frilled dresses with some sort of fish gills sticking out of the side (Rykiel). Want to look like a box of rather old chocolates? Try Givanchy or the latter half of St. Laurent. Ungaro might be a same to toy with, too. Count me out for plastic breastplates, as well.

Magic. Claude Monet (1840-1926) and not, if I might remind you, in the fashion business but at the Grand Palais. Many designers could learn a lesson from him. Misoni. Invading from Italy with a wonderful colour spectrum and a facility which is crucial in fashion now.

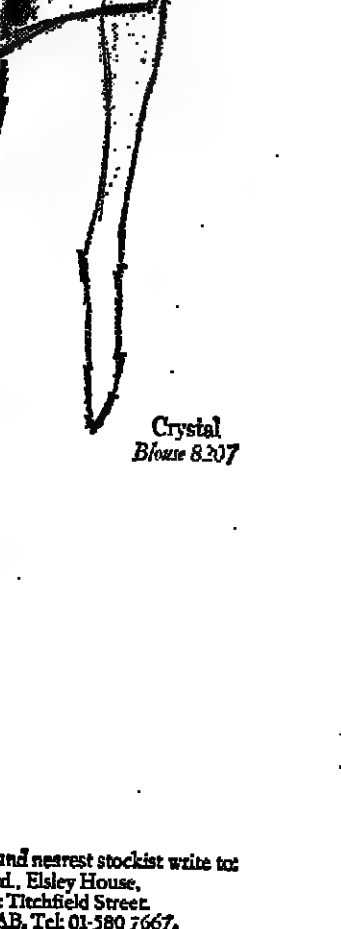
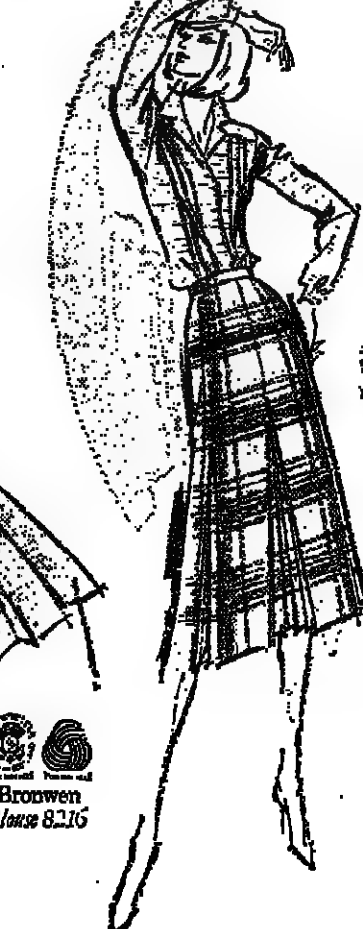
So there you have it. The message from Paris is about as clear as a heliograph in a Scotch mist.

## Gor-Ray in the Spring

A Classic  
Time for Change Gor-Ray greets the spring with a new theme to classic styles.

A beautifully fashioned collection, many featured in pure natural wool.  
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## PARLIAMENT, April 2, 1980

## Racing and bloodstock get a VAT concession

House of Commons  
Mr Timothy Kitson (Richmond C) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what action he had taken to secure an end to the value-added tax treatment of bloodstock and racing in France and the Republic of Ireland which operated in the detriment of United Kingdom interests; and whether the Government intended to allow any further extension of the period during which racehorses can be imported for training and racing into the United Kingdom without payment of value-added tax.

Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State, Treasury, said that the Government had no intention of extending the period during which racehorses can be imported for training and racing into the United Kingdom without payment of value-added tax. He said that the Government had no intention of extending the period during which racehorses can be imported for training and racing into the United Kingdom without payment of value-added tax.

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## Britain and EEC closer to settling differences

House of Lords  
The differences between Britain and other EEC countries had not become worse, Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said at question time.

Over the last few months (he went on) there has been a realisation by all partners in the Community that there is a real problem which this country faces. It was not so in July last year at Strasbourg. But since Strasbourg and then Dublin there has been a change of attitude on the part of our partners.

We still have a long way to go but I am convinced that if we go about it in a spirit of friendship, we can get a satisfactory solution.

Lord Carrington was answering Lord Shovel (Lab) who asked for a Government statement before the next summit in British relations with the EEC and the prospect of settlement of differences.

Lord Carrington replied: "The Government remains determined to secure an equitable settlement of the budget problem. We shall treat other problems such as the CAP, the common fisheries policy and sheepmeat on their merits and work for mutual progress."

Lord Shovel: "The differences are not diminishing with the French but accelerating. Some French farmers had the impudence to stop a demonstration outside the House of Commons. What is likely to happen if we retaliate by sending a delegation to Paris?"

Lord Carrington: "I do not think the differences are worse than they were."

Lord Wigg (Lab): "The one thing that must not happen is for this country to waver on its obligations."

## Unions and employers told to mind their responsibilities

Restricting the figure of the public sector borrowing requirement to £100m coupled with a strict adherence to monetarism would cause unnecessary suffering without producing the desired result, Lord Biers (Lab) said when opening a debate on the subject in the House of Commons. What is likely to happen if we retaliate by sending a delegation to Paris?

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## Conservative MP attacks Esso over its policy on small garages

It was time action was taken to deal with the difficulty of travelling on the underground at night, Mr Laurence Pavitt (Brent, South, Lab) said when he opened the debate on the Easter recess.

Last weekend, it was impossible to travel on the underground into his constituency as a result of a series of attacks on railwaymen over the last 18 months on the line through Neasden and Dollis Hill. Railwaymen had said "enough is enough".

The police force in his constituency by and large did a good job. There was a need for decisions much higher up. It was incredible that when 100 National Front people liked to go on a march there were 3,000 police to protect them, yet when his constituents wanted to go home after visiting friends or the theatre, they were told they would finish up at the Central Middlesex Hospital.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield C) raised what he said he regarded as an abuse whereby under the Local Government Superannuation Act 1952 it was possible for long-serving local government officers to opt for retirement in order to draw their superannuation earlier and then be re-employed by the same authority.

Two senior officers employed by Consett Borough Council in his constituency had retired for 2½ hours around the end of April. Although the Government will continue to press the Commission to take action to end the practice, which are not in conformity with the state council directive on value-added tax, it would be unfair to force them to do so very early.

The Government has therefore been considering what action they themselves can take. It would be consistent with the provisions of the directive but which would leave the damage done to the United Kingdom bloodstock interests.

I have today authorized the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to issue a notice requiring importation facilities to be made available to overseas residents.

The effect of this concession will be that persons who are unable to have their horses trained and raced in the United Kingdom for reasons of health or other circumstances will be able to have their horses trained and raced in the United Kingdom without incurring any liability for value added tax at importation provided that the horses remain in the same ownership and are re-exported at the end of the two year period.

For the purposes of the concession, there will be a similar extension in the period of racing of a horse purchased in the United Kingdom by an overseas resident prior to exportation.

The Commissioners of Customs and Excise will be in touch with the Jockey Club and the British Bloodstock Association to ensure a detailed application of the concession.

However objectionable and however rough the going, whatever we enter into we should pay 20 shillings in the pound.

Lord Carrington—All these are taking into account.

Lord Blyton (Lab)—Mrs Thatcher need not think she is going to get anything. Now in the face of the terrible opposition we are receiving from the French, we have kicked all over—we should have a referendum of the people to see whether we stay in the Common Market.

Lord Carrington—It is a great mistake to assume that it is an Anglo-French dispute. It is not. This is a matter which all the members of the Community have got to solve together. We must see that it is solved.

Later he said: As is usually the case in these matters, these issues are seen from different standpoints from different places. I have no doubts the French are just as sincere in their attitude as we are in ours.

Private Bills  
The British Railways Bill (Castlefield Bill) was read a second time in the Commons and The Humberside Bill and Wesley's Chapel, City Road Bill, were read a second time in the Lords.

Parliamentary notices  
House of Commons  
Today at 9.30: Debates prior to Easter recess.

House of Lords  
Today at 11: Royal Assent.

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## Feasibility of district heating in cities

The Government proposed immediate action to set in hand work on the feasibility of district heating schemes of combined heat and power, the first stage being the identification of possible locations for them, Mr John Moore, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said in a long written reply on action following the Marshall report on combined heat and power published in July last year.

Mr Moore said the Secretary of State for Environment (Mr Michael Heseltine) and for Scotland (Mr George Younger) would be consulting local authority associations about areas where these schemes might be an economic proposition and where local authorities wished to examine the prospects. The cooperation of the electricity supply industry in all such areas was important.

He said it had long been recognised that the combined heat and power (CHP) could save energy whether linked with district heating schemes (CHP/DH) or with industrial processes (CHP/IDH). The report concluded that CHP/DH could be a viable economic proposition for heating buildings in areas of high density housing, particularly in the longer term, and recommended that to establish a truly open market for its development one of more lead city schemes should be started as soon as practicable.

On several counts CHP/DH schemes could fit well with the Government's energy policy criteria. The next step was to test the feasibility of CHP/DH in specific locations, a programme of work which was being set in hand.

The second stage (the report went on) would be a full examination of one or two of these locations, with a view to using them for lead city schemes. Only this information would make judgement to be made on the desirability of providing funds and on the scale of involvement by central and local government and other bodies.

The Government will meet the costs of its employment of consultants for this work, but would not cover other costs of establishing schemes, including the cost of the CHP/DH scheme, which would be met by the local authority or other bodies.

All such costs would need to be factored into existing public expenditure limits, and at each stage the programme will be subject to review.

In the second stage, a crucial decision will be necessary on whether to proceed to detailed design work for the construction of a major scheme. There are no easy or cheap options.

For instance, even the refurbishing of old power stations in city centres, which is being done by the Government, is an expensive business. It is not necessarily the optimum solution in that area, and any case it is unlikely ever to be cheap.

In industry, where CHP is already established, we accept the report's recommendation that the Government should encourage the development of worth while CHP schemes.

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## Electricity charge 'unfair to islands'

Scottish MPs complained about a decision by the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board to charge a rate for electricity generated by diesel.

Mr John Mackay (Argyll, C) said the chairman of the board should be told that this decision on charges was unfair to the small islands. The chairman should be asked to revert to uniform charging for all consumers in the highlands and islands.

Mr Alex Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said that the Board's decision was based on the fact that the islands were not connected to the main grid. He said that the Board's decision was based on the fact that the islands were not connected to the main grid.

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## Other ways in which BBC could cut back

There were other ways where savings might have been made in Scotland, Mr Fletcher said, but he was not going to say so. He said that the BBC was not going to say so.

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## SPORT

## Boxing

## How Ali still holds the purse strings

New York, April 2.—Heavyweight champions, Larry Holmes and Mike Weaver, showed little interest today in meeting for the undisputed world title, but both expressed a desire to meet the former champion, Muhammad Ali.

The reason is money. A contest with Ali would mean a multi-million-dollar promotion; a Holmes-Weaver bout could bring only a fraction of that in purse offers.

All, now ostensibly unretired after 18 months of inactivity, appears eager to accommodate both Holmes and Weaver. He would be the new World Boxing Association (WBA) champion, and Weaver, the new World Boxing Association (WBA) title holder.

All, aged 38, watched on television on Monday night as Holmes retained his title by stopping Jones and Weaver knocked out John Tate in a startling upset. What he saw, Ali said, convinced him that he could easily beat either champion.

"I want Weaver in two months and Holmes two months after that," Ali said yesterday at his Los Angeles home. The promoter, Bob Arum, who had been working on a Tate-Ali bout, switched and said he would try to sign Weaver and Ali instead.

"We've spoken with Ali and his advisers and they want to go ahead with the [Weaver] fight," Arum said in Knoxville, Tennessee. "We hope to hold the fight in June or July, probably in New Orleans."

King promoted the June 1978, match in which Holmes won the WBA title from Ken Norton and has staged all four of his title defenses. One of those was Holmes' win over Weaver, whom he stopped in the 12th round in June, 1979.

All, who held the heavyweight championship three times, could hardly contain his enthusiasm after watching Monday night's title bout. "I can't miss him," he said. "I can't miss him."

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١٥٥ من الجداول

# Barcelona gamble on 'magician' to put them back on top

John to win the Cup Winner's Shield, was taken by Roberto, signed from a Brazilian club. But three months later Roberto returned home after failing to make it so that success that Barcelona demand.

Herrera, now on an initial three-month contract, said: "It is premature to say whether the future but I would like to see Kraskid and Allan Simonsen [Barcelonians] back in the team."

He added: "I am not sure whether I'm sure the attack would be immediately effective and start to score goals."

One Barcelona supporter shook his head when discussing the current fortunes of a club still looking for their first trophy of the season. "We've all heard this sort of talk before but I suppose the manager has his own chance of putting Barcelona back where they belong—at the top".

## Worthington's suspension is upset for Birmingham

Birmingham City's hopes of promotion from the second division were dealt a blow yesterday when their striker, Frank Worthington, was suspended for three games by the former England forward, who had amassed 30 penalty points, was suspended by an FA commission for three games for missing the Easter games, at Queen's Park Rangers on Saturday and at home to West Ham on Monday.

Worthington, who has 100 goals, was also banned for reaching 30 points. His one-match suspension was for missing Saturday's East Anglian derby game at Ipswich.

Four players, however, earned reprieves. Forest's Oldie (Crawley), Brannigan (Blackburn Rovers) and Kennedy (Ratifax) had each collected 20 points but escaped suspension. The fourth, Dwyer, and Kennedy were also "severely censured", but none of them was banned because of their good record.

A Wrexham defender, Dwyer, was banned for two games by a Welsh FA disciplinary commission after reaching 20 penalty points. The suspension starts next Tuesday when Wrexham play at home to miss Wrexham's games with Swansea on April 12 and against Leicester the following Saturday.

Wrexham's manager, John Gibson, and Chelsea defender, now with Derby County, has applied for the Bournemouth coaching job, but has been offered a move to Blackpool. Bournemouth are interested in a player-coach to take over from the manager, Alec Horsfield, whose contract expires in two years' time.

Graham Hawkins, the former assistant manager at Port Vale, is expected to be offered a fourth division club for alleged unfair dismissal. His case will be heard in an industrial tribunal at Shrewsbury.

Hawkins, aged 34, a former Wolverhampton, Preston and Blackpool player, is now youth coach at Stoke City.

**Second Division**

[illegible]

## estone festival may anything but jolly

[illegible]

## ington are stronger in attle of the dukes

Kelvie respondent were far too strong  
ugh in the final of  
Rackets Championship  
yesterday.  
James and Andrew  
at Anthony Taylor's  
swallow By 15-10,  
3, 15-8 to give  
first win in this  
46. With the ex-  
Nichols, Mark  
to pairs from the  
all from Malvern,  
as are the only  
to have won the

rst game was over,  
f not exactly the  
match, was predic-  
was dominated by  
is notably James  
heavyweight class  
by their opponents.  
points that Well-  
came direct from  
an historical con-  
gest that is com-  
on those two great  
Wellington served

However, rallies were few and  
brief and what there were tended  
to be sloping bombs. Naylor, the  
Marlborough first string appeared  
stunned and cowed by his oppo-  
nents realised that his young part-  
ner Swallow was out of his depth,  
being desperately vulnerable to  
anything fast. There was little  
Naylor could do to help and he  
sequentially was being hit by his best  
and twice served his hand out.

Only once did Marlborough  
look like making a battle of it.  
That was in the third game when  
Naylor largely through his own  
efforts brought Marlborough back  
from 4-1 to 13-13 only to  
beletive work service that was  
immediately killed. Briefly Wel-  
lington looked shaky but Marl-  
borough were incapable of taking  
advantage of such

of both schools Rackets Doubles  
championship. Last round: Wellington  
(J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower)  
beat Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) 2-0  
The second round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The third round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The fourth round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The fifth round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The sixth round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The seventh round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The eighth round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The ninth round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0  
The tenth round: Marlborough (A. J. T. Naylor and M. R. B. G. S. Brown) beat Wellington (J. H. C. Macdonald-J. D. M. Blower) 2-0

# Rugby Union Davies leads Cardiff and cheers Lions

Gareth Davies will lead Cardiff against the Barbarians on Saturday in his first match since being injured in the international against Scotland. The Lions selectors, who are keen to give him a run to take a rest before the touring party leaves, will be glad that his stand-off is back in action, for Davies is likely to be a key role in the South Wales side.

Also returning to the Cardiff side is Andrew Zieadell, a winger, who has been out for ten matches with a hamstring injury.

Cardiff will have their touring programme against Penarth on Good Friday. The club side, capped come back Mike Knill, their captain and former international, will be joined by a number of players who were a member of the Barbarians side that lost 26-30 to Penarth four years ago, and only to lose to the Barbarians again in the team which will take the field tomorrow.

David Richards, Swansea's first stand-off, will turn out against the Barbarians at 5.45 p.m. on Monday and also against the Barbarians at 5.45 p.m. on Wednesday. Richards, who is Welsh, is only a week before he is due to leave for South Africa. Swansea's other stand-off, Chris Williams, a prop, has not yet made a decision about his future, but Gordon Morris, the club's chairman, stresses that no pressure is being put on him to leave. He is playing their last game before the

## Paint company first to back international

By Peter Walker

Welsh rugby will benefit by £25,000 as a result of the sale of the public rights to the Wales v. England match at the National Stadium on November 1. This match will be the focal point of the WRU's centenary season and, as a result of a commercial link with Crown Paints, the game will become the first-ever sponsored international.

At yesterday's announcement, the centenary committee's chairman, K. M. Harris, said: "We are delighted that such a major match of the season will be rolling in support of our centenary year which promises a feast of rugby worthy of 100 years of our national sport".

The glaze paint group, mainly based in the northern part of the country, are laying out a writing amount, in terms of their overall advertising budget of £2m, for the privilege of having the game on their television screens for the centenary match "The game will be televised throughout the United Kingdom, as well as abroad, and will attract considerable publicity beforehand."

The company will also be granted two prime advertising sites at the National Stadium in Cardiff and, nearer the match itself, will be running a national campaign where they will have match tickets as prizes; in Wales,

a sure way of a competitor's success is to have a product which is having any say in the game is staged, a match is allowed to place a brand name on the back of the players' kit.

By the time the season starts next year, WRU's officials, by the substance of the promotional campaign, will be in £250,000. The Crown, other sponsors, other commercial deals still should enable them to make the most of that off the year.

Commenting on the decision to sponsor the way-Crown Paints match, involved in its Crown Plus championships, next year—the managing director, W. J. Burns, said: "We are delighted that Welsh Rugby Union and a superb match of the world's national game."

This new initiative could be a pointer to sponsorship, perhaps domestic championships, which have been well struck in the past.

As Governor of the WRU, Harris said: "We will be the hand that

Rugby League  
**Reduction  
of ban  
frees Woods  
for final**

By Keirh Macklin

After a 90 minute hearing that must have seemed like an eternity, the Hull folk back Paul Woods to the reserves. The hearing, which sounded like air issuing from a punctured tyre, Woods, the fiery little man from Ponsoppey, was told that the probability of reduction of a nine-match total of suspensions will, just, enable him to play in the Challenge Cup final on at the 11th of November.

The whole hearing was charged with tension, as a grim-faced Woods and two Hull directors went outside the committee room to deliberate. Woods' calculations were frequently bandied about and it was agreed that there are a minimum of seven players in the reserves who can play, five League games and a Premiership tie and an "A" team game. With the suspension of seven players, said Woods, makes every player's dream appearance only by a majority verdict of 2-1.

Woods admitted when he had regained his composure that he had seriously considered retiring from the game, but that he had gone against him, so bitter would have been his disappointment at a minimum of one week's absence. It will certainly miss out on tomorrow's rehearsal for the Humberside Cup final, the all-tickets game, the Hull and Scunthorpe Park. Since neither team will be anxious to give too much away, it is likely that there will be several players on notable absences, from the match, with key players kept under wraps.

## Double mission for Bristol in their big match

Bristol have a double mission when they clash with Bath in the Welsh Cup semi-final at the Memorial Ground on Saturday. Their 21-6 win over Exeter on Saturday night has put them on top of the Welsh Cup, but they need and they need to win to be certain of staying there. They are also out to avenge the Welsh Cup defeat when their hooker Bogira was sent off before they were destroyed by three tries from winger Trick on Saturday.

Bath, who are second in the merit table, also beat Exeter last Saturday 19-4, but they will be disappointed if they lose to Bristol without their England full back Edizide whose unhappy season has not been ended by an ankle injury. The Welsh Cup referee is recalled to the pack.

Bath, who want to avenge their Glamorgan Wanderers tonight, will be keen to be back on half, eddiper and driving force Morfion. He is joining the Barbarians on their Welsh tour and will be picked for Saturday's game against Cardiff.

Bath will be without their scrum-half, who is recovering from a knee injury, and their wing, who is recovering from a knee injury.

## Murphy moots international panel of referees

Asking one of the New Zealand's most experienced referees, wants to see an international panel of referees. He refused to reveal his plans to go to a new annual conference of the New Zealand Rugby Referees' Association, which began here this afternoon.

Mr Murphy said that if the appointment of independent referees was to become a normal feature of international rugby, the International Rugby Board should establish the operating system. He said the referees' referees' appointment board should meet up to meet annually, with each IRB country supplying a member. He said the board would consist of two referees for the panel, he said, making nominations every two years. The board could make recommendations to the IRB, but decisions or could submit a panel to a touring team.

As tours were known in advance, Mr Murphy said, appointments could be made yearly and non-members of the IRE would be encouraged to use referees from their own countries. A levy of 1 per cent levy on international gate takings would finance the

## Bennett at Penarth

[illegible]

**FOOTBALL**

**CANNES:** International youth tournament: France 3, Romania 0; Ireland 3, 6-2.

**ZURICH:** International match: Switzerland 2, Greece 0.

**ISTANBUL:** Olympic qualifying tournament: Turkey 0, Yugoslavia 1.

**BUCHAREST:** Exhibition match: Romania 2, East Germany 2.

**RUGBY UNION:** 16 group schools international: Wales 3, England 7 (at

## Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE:		Washington
1. Atlanta	6. Pittsburgh	5. Philadelphia
2. Cincinnati	7. St. Louis	6. Hartford
3. Chicago	8. Buffalo	7. Atlanta
4. Texas	9. Philadelphia	8. Flyers
5. Los Angeles	10. Nordiques	9. New York
6. Islanders	11. Minnesota	10. North Stars
7. St. Louis	12. Blues	11. Chicago
8. Tampa Bay	13. Vancouver	12. Black
9. Edmonton	14. Oilers	13. Los Angeles
10. Colorado	15. Rockies	14. Kings

## Athletics

AYKENS, Marathon:	1. V. Podogov
(USSR), 2hrs 30min	2. N. T.
erebinkov (USSR),	2:21.04
simikatos (Greece),	2:26.24
ga yakov (USSR),	2:26.27
Jordakis (Greece),	2:35.28
himonis (Greece),	2:53.37

## Cricket

## The long search ends with Doshi

Warwickshire have ended their long search for a top-class slow bowler by signing the 27-year-old left-arm spinner, to join them on a one-year contract for the next season.

Doshi, who has played in 11 Test matches and taken 46 wickets, is expected to arrive at Edgbaston on Monday. He has previously played in the county championship for Nottinghamshire before being released in 1978 because the county's registrations were taken up by Richard Hadlee and Clive Rice.

Warwickshire already have two overseas players in Amarnath, Ferreira, of South Africa, and Andrews, but Kallicharran is likely to be on his country's tour of England.

JARRETT PARK, Jamaica: She  
Shield: Guyana 357 and 325; Jamaica  
337 and 378 for 9. Match drawn.

do not harm schoolboys  
at school

## Reducing risk of rugby injury at school

by Peter West

**Rugby Correspondent**

When writing several weeks ago about schoolboy rugby I referred to an article by Medical Officer of the *Illustrated Sporting News* which queried whether in the previous issue the headmaster of Greatham's School, Mr. Leslie Bruce Lockhart had been justified in suggesting that one particularly serious neck injury had caused understandable overreaction on the part of the "dozen places" to that magazine. If I of them upholding the highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play, and if all its former members, Mr. Bruce Lockhart was saddened to see lifted from its content what he regarded as the only sentence that was true.

Since, by careless implication, I attributed this to his brother, Rab, who won three Test caps, each a decade or so before the outbreak of the first world war, I am happy now to make some amends.

The distressing incident referred to happened in an old boys' school at Christ's Hospital. In an article entitled "The right to run freely" Mr. Bruce Lockhart had suggested to most of the pupils that they be "kicked" by the Medical Officer, for minimizing the risk of neck injuries, but disagreed that all matches between schoolboys and those between school and university demonstration teams like those seen at St Mary's Hospital run by the famous "Tommy" Thompson's Commando camp.

He was not a traditional, did more than any other to counteract violence everywhere. Such teams agreed to forfeit the usual penalties if they were kept to the law and spirit

of the game; they agreed never to exploit purely physical superiority to do the work, and they proved that glorious attacking rugby was possible without any element of violence, which was the aim of schoolboys was inspired by the approach that such teams taught. Mr. Bruce Lockhart also agreed in the same article that fixtures between schools and rough local rugby clubs should be abandoned and that old boys' sides should be encouraged to change their nature.

He returns to the subject in the latest issue of *School Sport* under the heading "More about risk." He says that in 1942, 1943 and 1945 and three more injuries leading to permanent paralysis between 1942 and 1948. One, Mr. Bruce Lockhart asserts, is too much, but that should not be a hindrance in public schools alone, without counting state schools, club clubs or prep schools, there must have been many million boys who were injured in the years. How many people felt downcast? How many thing accidents were there? How many people felt off mountains? How many boys hurt by downing were there, or deaths through fits in the home?

He concludes that "Medical Officers are rightly pointed to a clear increase in rugby injuries in the past five years." But surely this cannot be due to any increase in old boys' matches or fixtures being played by downing, but I can see no evidence for any corresponding increase in these. I entirely accept the other very real possibility of the removal of medical officers, collapsing from rows, foul or collapsing

play in rucks and mauls, and play the young and frail against the old and large, and the small against the main sources of trouble. There are losses the courage to defend players off for punches, high kicking and the like, and they are only just beginning to get the message about blowing the whistle early enough at scrums, mauls and rucks.

"But the advice that old boys' and young'ns' should be cancelled is wrong. The medical officers' warnings were distributed by some of us this season and they were reminded of the purpose of these matches which they have so admirably carried out: to demonstrate to boys how to play the game, to give them an insight into the elements of the game and to reveal over brute force and unscrupulous. A well selected team consisting of first class players comes down to show boys how to play, speed and technique can be taught and high scoring. . . . Even in the front row, such a team will be able to teach without risk, to dominate without bullying, to get the ball without physical intimidation."

Mr Bruce Lockhart asserts the same is not in favour of unnecessary risks and that the responsibility of the headmaster who knows that by his example he is setting a bad example of nervous suffering on others is a formidable one indeed. "But you cannot avoid all risk. . . . A public school is a place where the boys and children who join it know that it seeks to develop courage and initiative. Fun and enterprise are not frowned in any way. They are not put in a cluttered wool, but put up too many faces round

[illegible]

POOL PROMOTERS ASSOCIATION

# CERTIFIED PPA DIVIDENDS

All dividends are subject to recutting.

FOR MATCHES PLAYED  
MARCH 29TH

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## VERNONS POOLS LIVERPOOL

### THIS WEEK'S RECORD PAYOUT!

# £471,838

<b>March 29TV Winner Receives £6,938</b>  8 GOES A PENNY TREBLE CHANCE—5 DIVIDENDS 24 pts ..... £5,311.00 23 pts ..... £78.25 22½ pts ..... £13.90 22 pts ..... £5.95 21½ pts ..... £2.05 (10 units at 1p)  NOTIN GBARRED POOLS 4 DRAWS ..... £25.20 9 HOMES ..... £107.80 5 ALWAYS ..... £110.30	<b>MATCHPLAY JACKPOT PRIZE (2 correct results)</b> Including 12 Correct Draw £5,938.00 12 CORRECT ..... £2,238.00 11 CORRECT ..... £168.30 10 CORRECT ..... £8.10  <b>GRAND NATIONAL COMPETITION</b> 1st THREE IN CORRECT ORDER (Nos. 7, 37, 38) Dividend plus extra prize £135.80 1st three in any other order £30.80
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Expenses and commission for March 1980, 34.1%  
All dividends except Treble Chance declared to unit of 10p

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## ZETTERS POOLS LONDON E.C.1

### 25-a-1p MULTI-TOPS WIN £13,882 IN NEW RECORD PAYOUT!

25-a-1p £100,000 TREBLE CHANCE 24 Pts ..... £1,542.55 23 Pts ..... £32.25 22½ Pts ..... £5.55 22 Pts ..... £2.30	3 SCORE FOR 3p     FOR 10p DRAWS ..... £3.60 ..... £12.00  4 DRAWS ..... £6.00 ..... £20.00 8 HOMES ..... £13.80 ..... £48.00 4 ALWAYS ..... £3.30 ..... £11.00 EASY 6 ..... £12.90 ..... £43.00
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Expenses and Commission for 15th March 1980 — 34.4%  
TELL YOUR FRIEND ABOUT YOUR LOCAL COLLECTOR!!  
TELL YOUR LOCAL COLLECTOR ABOUT YOUR FRIEND...  
OR GET YOUR COUPON DIRECT FROM ZETTERS LONDON E.C.1

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## LITTLEWOODS POOLS LIVERPOOL

### *The Record Breakers*

# OVER £46 Million

ALREADY PAID TO WINNERS THIS SEASON

### THE TREBLE CHANCE PAYING 5 DIVIDENDS

24 PTS ..... £19,197.20 23 PTS ..... £378.95 22½ PTS ..... £71.40 22 PTS ..... £29.85 21½ PTS ..... £11.60 21 PTS ..... £2.35	4 DRAWS ..... £17.10   10 HOMES ..... £519.70   4 ALWAYS ..... £16.15
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Trebble Chance dividends to each at 1 p  
Always dividends to each at 10p  
Expenses and Commission 15th March 1980 — 30.1%

**TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COLLECTOR —  
ASK YOUR FRIENDS OR NEIGHBOURS**



## SPORT

## Tennis

## Mediterranean sun shines only briefly for Connors

From Rex Bellamy  
Tennis Correspondent  
Monte Carlo, April 2

The world rankings suggest that there are 71 better tennis players than Jean-François Caujolle, a left-hander from Carcassonne. One of them is Jimmy Connors, ranked third. But today Caujolle came back from 3-5 down in the first set to beat Connors, 7-6, 6-2 and thus reach the last eight of the Monte Carlo tournament which is part of the Volvo Grand Prix Series, and the World Championship Tennis circuit.

The best tennis player in Monaco is Boris Becker, who is a native Swede. His four lead-22 challenges for world supremacy (though Roderic Tanner might contest the point) decided in his own favour on his favourite slow clay. So John McEnroe, Connors, Guillermo Vilas, and Vitas Gerulaitis put in a lot of flying hours so that they could play in Boris's local tournament and avoid the heat of the Mediterranean sun at a time of year when it is particularly welcome.

One of the odd things about the Monte Carlo Country Club is that it is not in Monte Carlo, nor even in Monaco. Tennis demands certain areas of level ground and there is not much of that in Monaco. So the courts are just across the border in France, where they have been hacked out of a rugged terrain and arranged in tiers on a rocky, wooded hillside above the sea.

What with the hills, the palms and the confetti, the beach below, and the divelers, the Monte Carlo tennis boy, this must be the loveliest

setting in the world for a tournament of this nature. It is the holders of every big title in the game fell for the temptation to assemble here and find out what Borg and the Riviera had to say to them.

Connors and McEnroe are newcomers here and, frankly, fit into the scene about as well as vinegar mixed with wine. But Connors is the mated States clay court champion and Wimbledon on grass.

Caujolle, by contrast with Connors, is thoroughly at ease in the South of France. He has already been slightly outside the mainstream of French tennis and has also had some problems with his health. But when he is feeling strong and playing well, Caujolle is a force to be reckoned with.

Connors is still capable of great things but at another place, another time. Today he mostly looked a long way from home. Caujolle was very much at ease.

## Tanner serves way to victory with ten aces

New Orleans, April 2—Roderic Tanner, the top seed, beat Eric Van Dillen 6-2, 7-5 in the first round of a \$75,000 grand prix tournament here last night.

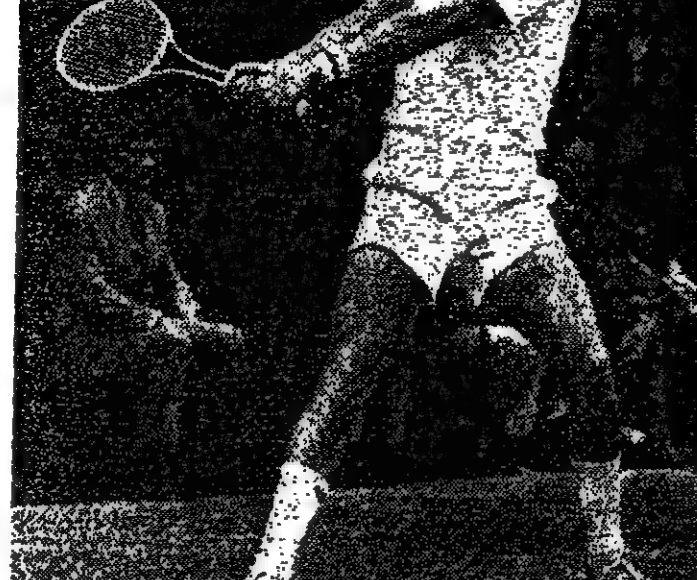
Tanner served 10 aces and Van Dillen managed to win only three points on his opponent's service in the match. Tanner will play Tom Leonard, another American, in the second round.

Other results: Roderic Tanner, 6-2, 7-5; Van Dillen, 2-6, 5-7. In the second round, Tanner will play Tom Leonard, another American, in the second round.

## Storming back to the rain cheque event

John McEnroe, after a stormy passage last year, will return to defend his singles title in the \$50,000 Stella Artois grand prix tournament at Queen's Club, London, starting on June 3. Roderic Tanner, the Boston finalist at Wimbledon last summer, is also in a top-class field challenging for the first prize of just over £3,000.

Last year's tournament was the first major sporting event to give spectators their money back if bad weather limited play to less than two hours. The same rain cheque will be in force for this year's event, which is set for Friday, June 13.



Connors: another time, another place to show that old familiar pace.

meister, Tomas Smid v Caujolle, and Vilas v Bill Scanlon (US). Connors, 6-2, 7-5; Caujolle, 7-6, 6-2. In the second round, Tanner will play Tom Leonard, another American, in the second round.

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## Athletics

## Walker will run only if he is in top gear

Amsterdam, April 2.—John Walker, the Olympic 1,500 metres champion, said that he would not defend his title in Moscow unless he performed well in his build-up. Dogged by injury over the past two years, Walker said that if he was unable to do the 3,000 metres in 10 minutes before the Games in July, he would be wasting his time "even living up" in Moscow.

"I would need to be capable of that sort of time to have a chance of winning and unless I felt I was in that kind of form I wouldn't run," he said. The New Zealander, aged 26, who plans to defend his competitive running before the Olympics, had two complicated operations on his right leg in 1976 to relieve cramping in his calf muscle. "I am still bothered by my leg and can't manage to run more than seven miles at a time," he added.

Alberto Tomba, aged 29, of Italy, is unlikely to defend his 400 metres title in Moscow, according to a report published in Ravenna by Cuban sports authorities. He won the 400m and 800m at the Montreal Olympics, setting world records in the process. His 200m record was beaten by Sebastian Coe, of Britain, last year.

## Coe to link up with Nice party this month

Sebastian Coe, who has been training on his own in the Mediterranean sunshine for over two months this winter, will not be lost for company when he moves on from his secret training quarters in Nice later this month. He is to link up with some 120 athletes and coaches, the biggest British party to train abroad, from April 17 to 23.

The idea of going in strength came from Frank Dick, the director of coaching, who hopes that the trip will help to build team spirit before the start of the Olympic season. The trip to Nice is part of a series of overseas training camps organized by the British Amateur Athletic Board and sponsored by the International Athletics Club, at around £35,000.

## Rowing

## Cambridge find extra speed and confidence

By Jim Ralston

While a faint question mark still hangs over the Oxford University No 6, Chris Mahoney, Cambridge University wrapped up their Boat Race preparations yesterday with a sterling win over London University. Mahoney was back in the Oxford boat, having been rested on Tuesday afternoon, but he has apparently had a stiff back for the last week or so and has been under treatment.

Yesterday morning, during Oxford's training, Emerson, who substituted for Mahoney on Tuesday, was in the Oxford launch which underlines the question marks. While Oxford's major work in the evening was a test piece against the British lightweight team, Cambridge met London University, who, in the 1976 two weeks ago, were just under six seconds and two places ahead of them.

Cambridge ended the day with a moral advantage, for Oxford went down to the British lightweight eight by a length and a quarter, but a quarter and a few feet more than Cambridge's deficit to be same race last week.

In that race Cambridge led at the beginning, but had surrendered their advantage. Last night, Oxford, a row from just below Hammersmith Bridge to the University Show, trailed all the way.

The only of the early minutes of the race, another quarter, Oxford fought hard but were out-gunned. The only advantage, after yesterday's race, is the hypothesis advanced at the beginning of Boat Race training on Tuesday: there cannot be much between this year's crews. Today's outwings, Oxford, 10.0 and 4.15; Cambridge, 9.0 and 4.0. Cambridge 9.30 and 4.0.

So Cambridge are alive and well in the opening minutes of a tough contest, but it must be realized that they do not have sustained this pace over a four and a quarter mile race. So an early kill in Saturday's race is clearly and logically in the minds of both camps.

Cambridge also met their deadline yesterday to Laibrock, sponsors of this year's Boat Race, and removed the name Tessa's Sport from the bows of their borrowed shell. Failure to do so would have cost them over £1,000 a letter in sponsorship next year.

It was an ultimatum they could not refuse. Cambridge bows are now left adorned with a "Union Jack and a few feet more than Cambridge's deficit to be same race last week."

Cambridge's rowing team, led by the British lightweight eight, was out-gunned. The only advantage, after yesterday's race, is the hypothesis advanced at the beginning of Boat Race training on Tuesday: there cannot be much between this year's crews.

Today's outwings, Oxford, 10.0 and 4.15; Cambridge, 9.0 and 4.0. Cambridge 9.30 and 4.0.

## Golf

## Durnian new team for Euro circuit

Donald Durnian, a golf star in time, not at sea with the Navy, has been chosen to lead a new team of British players on the European circuit.

The other members of the team, created by the Donald Durnian Golf Club, will be: Peter Baker, a former professional, and a number of other players.

The team will be competing in the European circuit, which will be held in 1977. The team will be led by Donald Durnian, a former professional, and a number of other players.

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## Racing

## New name in Ascot NH calendar

By Michael Phillips  
Racing Correspondent

Ascot racecourse has just landed an important catch. The final of what used to be known as the Embassy Stakes, a 1,000-guinea handicap, will be run in January instead of at Haydock Park. It will be now known as the Ascot Handicap and will be the richest race in Ascot's National Hunt programme.

At Haydock the final was won by such good horses as L'Esper, Leapfrog, Burdon Incident and Silver Buck. Yesterday Christopher, the master of the race, said: "I am confident that the new name will be a success."

After all the rain that fell on Tuesday only a course with good drainage could have staged a race yesterday and it says something for the current system at Ascot that they were able to

go ahead without a moment's delay. Derris Rose, ridden by Alan Turing, won the Bernal Hunt Stakes to record his third triumph in this country since his trainer, Alan Turing, paid as little as £2,000 for him at Pau in France in February.

As a result of these successes Jarvis is now seriously considering taking Derris Rose back to France this summer for a crack at the Grand Course de la Baie d'Aurillac, the French equivalent of our Champion Hurdle which is run over yesterday's distance.

Earlier, Remigio looked like winning the Merin Hunter Steeplechase again until both he and Tatten Prince, his nearest rival,

made an absolute hash of jumping the second last fence and paid for their carelessness. This left Loden in the lead pursued by Respected and Derris Rose. On the run in Derris Rose was much the sturdier and he won quite comfortably. Derris Rose was ridden by his owner, Tony Clay, who was wearing the colours carried successfully in the Whitbread Gold Cup 20 years ago by Plumber's Plain. That good horse was owned by his father, Fred.

Tony Clay did not take up riding seriously until three years ago and he was the first to admit that his survival yesterday owed not a little to the tutelage of his wife, Lydia. To put the result into perspective, it should be mentioned that Remigio beat Derris Rose by 25 lengths when they last met, at Kempton in February; that would have been the Northumberland Plate. After an interminable build-up, he leant forward and said earnestly: "Tell me, Peter, what is it that makes Sea Pigeon such a giant?"

On another occasion, Mr. Easterby was looking at some horses in a field the day after the trainer's stable had beaten its stable companion, the favourite,

at Thirk. A bus load of miners arrived from Barnsley and one of them asked: "Who do those horses belong to?" "Them's Easterby's," the Thirk twisting barker; they couldn't be straight in bed," came the response. Peter remembered his pipe from his mouth, looked furiously around for non-existent horses, and then whispered in the man's ear, "Aye, they've got a rum name round here, too."

Now Lord of the Manor at Habton in the Vale of Pickering, Mr. Easterby started training 30 years ago with £280 as capital and a bicycle as his only conveyance. "I got a lift down to Newmarket with the late Bill Dutton, and spent the £280 on three yearlings. I came back in a horse box, then in a furniture van, and finally, with a-bus. But I sold the yearlings at a profit, and I was on my way."

Peter's father, William, was a small farmer and dealer. "How did he manage to get on?" Easterby asked. "He was a hard worker and a good manager. He was a hard worker and a good manager. He was a hard worker and a good manager."

Easterby has come a long way from the days 30 years ago of £280 capital and a bicycle

## Habton's Lord of the Manor plans his Easter attack

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of Yorkshire is God's own country, and despite their penniless condition, the Easterbys explored it to their heart's delight. "We once rode from Habton to Kirby Moorside, hunted all day with the Binington, and then rode home again at night. We did it bareback as we couldn't afford any saddles."

This is a round trip of 16 miles and a pack of hounds frequently covers more than 20 miles in a day. The parable of the talents is not exactly synonymous with the story of Peter and Mick, for Easterby has made the most of his own. By dint of hard work, he has built up a reputation as a top-class trainer.

Neither man's record is dwelling on. Mick has 1,000 Guineas with Mrs. McCarty and Tony with Mrs. W. J. Easterby. Peter has won the 1976 Ascot Gold Cup and the 1977 Ascot Gold Cup. He has also won the 1976 Ascot Gold Cup and the 1977 Ascot Gold Cup.

field at Cheltenham last month has been the most fruitful of the trainer's career. "We only had three weeks to get him ready," said Mr. Easterby. "And we got him ready. He was a good horse. He was a good horse. He was a good horse."

The art of acquiring the impossible seems to be the prerogative of the Easterbys. Peter and Mick, for example, have won the 1976 Ascot Gold Cup and the 1977 Ascot Gold Cup. They have also won the 1976 Ascot Gold Cup and the 1977 Ascot Gold Cup.

It was business as usual at Habton yesterday as Mr. Easterby planned his Easter attack. The Pigeon will run in the Welsh Champion Hurdle at Chepstow on Monday, and either on Father Dunsany or Chase the Sea Pigeon should be the favourite for the Thirk 1,000-guinea handicap.

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## Worcester programme (NH)

2.30 CLENT HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o novices: £541: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

2.0 CITY HURDLE (Selling handicap: £849: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

2.30 MADRESFELD CHASE (Handicap: £1,237: 3m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

4.0 MALVERN HURDLE (Handicap: £1,000: 3m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

4.30 DREYCHON CHASE (Novices: £1,237: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

5.0 CLENT HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £538: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

Worcester selections  
By Our Racing Correspondent  
2.30 Oloro's Folly, 3.00 The First, 3.30 Albany Lad, 4.0 Gemini Miss, 4.30 Deer Mount, 5.00 Chival.



The Peregrine Chase is on. In flight at the final fence are Professor Plum and Tiepolino (right).

Professor Plum  
Horse: 1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

Charges and Control  
Horse: 1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

Charges and Control  
Horse: 1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

## Southwell programme

2.15 SUTTON-ON-TRENT CHASE (Novices: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

2.45 JUNCTION HURDLE (Selling: £411: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

3.15 JAMES SELBY TROPHY (Hunters amateurs: 3m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

3.45 ANNESLEY HURDLE (Handicap: £823: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

4.15 BALDERTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,159: 2m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

4.45 BURGAGE HURDLE (Novices: £521: 3m)  
1. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
2. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
3. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0  
4. 000230 Camp Hill, G. Jones, 11-0

Southwell selections  
My Michael Seely  
2.15 Mifflin, 2.45 Sharp Point, 3.15 GRITTA R, 3.45 Fob, 4.15 Dingo, 4.45 Tylight Wave.





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Paul Routledge sums up the steel strike—'a classic, set-piece confrontation'

## Settling for an honourable draw

"Birdy walks on water" sang the pickets who, only three hours earlier, had invaded the offices of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Even among those who wanted to reject the Lever report, Mr Bill Sirs, general secretary of the ISTC, was the hero of the hour in the pickets' pub at Kings Cross.

There was surprisingly little sense of defeat among the badge-festooned militants. It was with some difficulty that you recalled they had been on strike for 92 days, such was the evident appetite for more.

It was not, as has so often been said, a strike that had never happened. British Steel showed few real signs of regret that it was approaching, and the dominant steel union felt the time was right to "let the lads have a go". Three years of plant closures, a rising tide of rank-and-file influence in the ISTC and an offer one-tenth the size of the minor settlement conspired to make the strike inevitable.

Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of BSC, reportedly told a private meeting of the Reform Club economic group last Thursday that he knew as a far back as October that there would be a strike, and warned Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for Industry, as much. He also said that others knew, and industry built up its stocks accordingly.

And what were the gains and losses? British Steel has got its blueprint for a joint-union local productivity deals, which could immediately create 22,000 jobs, and it has—this year, at least—won recognition that the annual wage round cannot simply reflect the rate of inflation. The industry has also lost an estimated 10 per cent of the United Kingdom market for steel which will take a lot of recuperating.

The unions, but particularly the ISTC and the National Union of Blastfurnacemen, have driven up the original, sizable offer of two per cent to some-

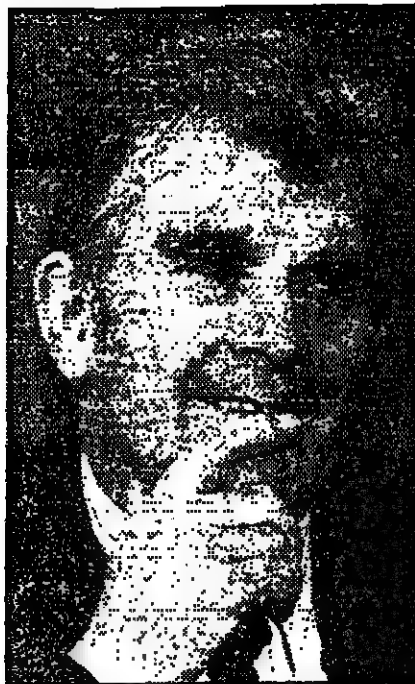
thing like 16 per cent by power bargaining. Less tangible, though as important if not more so, is the psychological impact on worker attitudes. On the victory tour of the picket pubs, the most common expression you heard ran something like: "They won't take us on so quickly again". It is a sense of group self-confidence, hard to define but definitely there.

The steel strike of 1980 is one for the text books as well as the history books. It was a classic set-piece confrontation in which all the familiar tactics of sympathetic action, flying and mass pickets, TUC rhetoric and trade union expenditure running into millions of pounds were deployed.

But it is likely to be the last of its kind to be conducted under the old rules. Under the amendments to the Employment Bill tabled yesterday by Mr James Prior, the Employment Secretary, most of the secondary action taken in pursuit of the steelmen's claim would be outside the protection of the law and open to civil action.

The flying pickets who effectively tied up tens of thousands of tons of imported steel in docks right round the coastline could find themselves in court with a huge bill for damages. The mass picketing that closed Hadfield's, the big private sector plant in Sheffield, will be outlawed in the Bill as it stands, and the train drivers will also be at risk if they repeat the sympathetic action of embargoing the movement by rail of strike-affected commodities such as steel.

Legal change in another area will also impinge strikes. The Government's plan to "deem" that strikers are in receipt of £12 a week dispute benefit means that their union when they apply for state cash aid to support their families will hit hardest at unions like the miners and steelmen who do not give strike pay. They will inevitably be more reluctant to mount marathon stoppages like the 13-week battle that British Steel has just endured.



William Sirs: are his troops battle-hardened or merely scarred?

But even in the context of today's more relaxed strike climate, the Government has reason to be pleased with the outcome of the steel dispute. Its policy of non-intervention has been vindicated. By staying at arm's length (publicly, at least) from the fray, ministers have discouraged other groups of workers from thinking they can be bailed out by the state when their industrial ambitions are frustrated by a rough management.

The cash limit for British Steel has survived intact, and the corporation expects to be able to recoup the whole

of the cost of the settlement from the productivity deals which will now be put on the table in the works and divisions. A central plank of the Cabinet's wages policy—that rises have to be earned through greater output and/or fewer workers—has been given a substantial fillip.

So one way and another, the corporation goes into round two of the battle, this time on plant closures, with a strong hand. British Steel had wanted to have concluded by now the negotiations on a "sinking" plan for Port Talbot and Llanwern, but the talks have not yet even started. The workforce in South Wales seems determined to oppose the curbs in jobs there, and the union of Consens have formed a joint union committee to save the works from closure.

In the forthcoming talks, the unions will argue that the BSC should join with them in an approach to the Government for an increase in public funding, presently confined to £450m for 1980/81 by cash limits. But having withstood the pressure of the longest national strike in most trade unionists' memory, ministers are most unlikely to unzip the public purse now.

When the unions show their hand on reaction to plant closures, politicians and management alike will be able to test Mr Sirs' assertion that his troops are battle-hardened or whether they are merely battle-scarred.

The recent history of Corby, Shotton, Shelton, East Moors and Bilston suggests that the opportunity to acquire a lump sum averaging £10,000 in redundancy pay is more beguiling than all the corporate oratory that Mr Sirs can muster. The unions are probably right in saying that the outcome of the steel strike is an honourable draw. It is possible to debate the strike without assuming that one side has won. In the closure battle, however, there will have to be a loser.

Labour Editor.

Ronald Butt

## A vital chance for the clever child

The Government's Education Bill is due to become law today, and among much else, it brings into being the new means-tested assisted places scheme under which the fees of some able children of poorer parents can be paid wholly, or in part with public money. I discussed this scheme in a recent article (March 31), and this involved a particularly interesting and informed correspondence which raised some questions and criticisms well worth further discussion.

My defence of the new scheme rested on the proposition that the independent schools provide an invaluable criterion against which the state schools can be tested; that the independent schools were particularly valuable in maintaining academic standards during the years of innovation and upheaval in the state sector; that these standards are wanted by more parents than can afford to pay the fees; and that such schools ought particularly to be available for specially able children in places where the state schools cannot adequately provide for them.

I suggested that this need was particularly acute in some inner city areas where a disproportionately small proportion of able children may be disadvantaged by the nature of the only comprehensive schools available. I observed also that it might actually be cheaper to send children on full fees to a former direct grant school than to a state school, so that the question of cost is not a material factor.

This last subsidiary point

was challenged by several people among them Lord Stewart of Fulkham who thought (in a letter, March 31) that he had confused average and marginal cost. My statement was, in fact, based on Government figures given in the House of Commons (House of Commons Debates, March 28, col 1487-8). These compared the average recurrent cost of a secondary school, £1,000, with the cost paid by one local authority to another for a child's education from the ages of 11 to 18, with the average cost of the fees at six Manchester ex-direct grant schools.

I had defended the scheme against Lord Butler's criticism by asking whether he would have been as critical if his grandchildren, for lack of money, had to go to the worst kind of inner city comprehensive. In reply, Lord Butler (March 31) informed us that about 10 of his grandchildren had entered the state system. That was not exactly relevant to the point I was making. Everything depends on which state schools and where.

Some people use the state primary system and then go to Eton, while there is a great difference between the much admired comprehensive at Corisbrook, Isle of Wight (for instance) and some of the inner-city schools where there is no balanced intake, and which have a catchment area with so many social problems that resources have to be concentrated on

them at the expense of academic children.

I hope, therefore, that Lord Butler and others who wrote to me personally, will acquit me of an attack on either the state system as such, or on the dedication and competence of most of its teachers. They have a harder challenge than most of the independent schools, and the problems of the state sector arise largely from the consequences of its reorganization in particular places, and from the imposition of education fashion.

But perhaps the most important question raised was whether the assisted places scheme really will help the able child of working class parents, or whether the beneficiaries will be those more or less middle class parents who are able to operate the system.

The means test, with its likely cut-off point at around £8,000 income, will ensure that it helps only the lower paid. There is, of course, also the problem that there will not be enough independent school places in the difficult city areas. In some cities, excellent former direct grant schools exist; in others, notably inner London, they do not. But there are still appropriate independent schools not far away, and accessible by bus or tube journey. Everything depends how well and widely such schools publicise their assisted places—and let us remember that it is the schools themselves that will do the selecting, not the Government.

But in any case, the scheme (if it proves lasting) will be most important as a beginning. The hope must be that it will encourage the foundation of independent schools, through charitable trusts, in the areas of greatest need.

The new scheme is, curiously, feared by some on both the maintained and the independent side. I have talked to some representatives of state schools who believe that it is unfair to them to take some of the best of their potential pupils. This, they say, makes nonsense of the competition of which I wrote

between the state and independent sectors. There are several answers to that.

The first is that, important though the competition is, it is individual children (each having only one life to lead and some disadvantaged by their particular situation as things now are) who really matter most.

The second answer is that the creaming off will not happen because the competition is good enough to give no cause for it. Why should a parent pay (say) his £100 or £200 if he can get an equivalent education for nothing?

As for the state schools where the environment is fundamentally unsatisfactory, it is highly implausible to argue that the departure of the few who might leave the schools would make matters materially worse. What it might do is to force the authorities to new solutions.

But some on the independent side also have misgivings. One headmaster of a former direct grant school regards the scheme as a "potential death trap" for the schools and pupils involved in it. He envisages the whole thing being cut off by a Labour government, which would thus administer a crippling blow to the schools, by obliging them to support their assisted places pupils—or see them leave.

But I do not believe that even the most extreme Labour government would incur the unpopularity of striking at a child's education half-way through school. Besides, unlike the direct grant arrangements, which were under regulations that could be quickly abolished, the new scheme (the Act will protect the children's education until 18) would take at least a year to be repealed.

In fact, most of the former direct grant schools are deliberately underfunded, not taking too many under the scheme governing the number by their ability to support their assisted places element from their school bursary funds for a few

years if the worse came to the worst.

There is, however, one other argument that has been put to me—that the scheme will lead to state interference in the independent schools which, it is contended, was already possible under the direct grant scheme.

This ignores the fundamental difference between the two schemes. The direct grant schools had a special status, and a dependence on public money. The schools with assisted places will remain wholly independent, selecting their own intake, and the role of the Government will be only to pay the fees or part of the fees of an approved number. The intention is plainly to give priority to children from areas where the need is greatest.

There is, therefore, nothing in this scheme that can jeopardize the independence of the independents—which will be far more at risk from becoming, increasingly, the prerogative of the rich. Certainly there is everything to be said for what some independent heads regard as the real alternatives—the provision of capital, particularly for large businesses, to create jobs, and the largely to provide open places.

Once there are sufficient open places for poorer pupils at independent schools to create a genuine vested interest in their preservation among ordinary people, then they stand a chance of surviving from an attack. The scheme that becomes law today could, just conceivably, lead us in this direction.

Bernard Levin

## The seeds of genius: watch them grow

Adelaide

In her preface to the official history of the Adelaide Festival, the Queen Mother, who is its patron, bravely declares that over the 20 years since the biennial festival was founded (the present one is the eleventh), "it has achieved world stature—second only to the Edinburgh International Festival".

It is well known that the Queen Mother is unfailingly tactful, and anyway she is no doubt asked less frequently than I have been during my week in Adelaide what Adelaide can do to make the existence of its festival known to the world, which at present has scarcely heard of it. That in itself, mind you, would not disprove the claim about its world stature, but the Queen Mother's courtesy cannot make it come true, and hence it can be said that a reality, the apparently insurmountable handicap which I referred to when signing off yesterday has to be overcome.

I can best put it like this. The distance from Sydney to Adelaide by air is, with modern jet aircraft, a mere commuter's hop; I scarcely had time to stop a second cup of coffee before we began our descent. Within little more than that distance from my front door in London there are not two centuries old and 3,000-4,000 double that; and a simple and constantly replenished number of customers, spectators and audiences for all of these.

Now it may easily be supposed that Australia has no such profusion of these signs and products of civilization. True, Australia's population is only a tiny fraction of the combined totals of the nations of Western Europe; still it is twice the size of Austria's and I think it will be some time before the Vienna Philharmonic needs to look to its laurels in the face of antipodean competition.

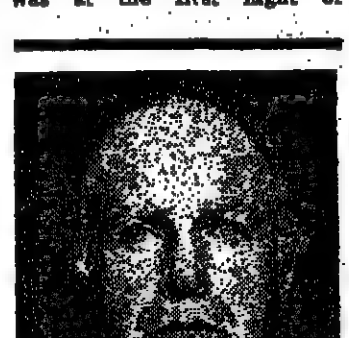
Australia cannot multiply her population twenty-fold overnight; nor can she acquire an historical tradition going back centuries until the centuries have passed. But what follows from this handicap apart from the cultural inferiority complex I mentioned yesterday (it is known, in a phrase which is the title of a book about it here, as "The Australian Cringe") is a double limitation on the ability of Adelaide's festival to make good the Queen Mother's proud claim for it.

There have in fact been a number of items that could have been judged by the highest standards, most notable and exciting among these being a brilliant young pianist, Joseph and Anthony Parravano, of whom we shall hear a great deal more, starting I think very soon. (They are American, incidentally, despite their Italian surname.) This pair gave a dazzling performance of Mozart's two-piano concerto, and added as an encore a marvellously funny arrangement (their own) of the finale of *The Carnival of the Animals*, which they had turned into a fireworks for four hands at one keyboard, and which they proceeded to play, with any amount of cat-cradle hand-crossing in the manner of Chico Marx, though one of them is the living image of Harpo. My week at the festival

has also included the Australian premiere of Stoppard's *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*, which grows greater every time I see it and which was excellently performed; some fine chamber music from the Sydney Quartet and our own Gabrieli; and the Rossini *Mass*, so notably marked by the unscheduled addition to the musical forces provided by the hokey I described yesterday.

But there was something else at Adelaide which perhaps offered a tentative solution to the insoluble problem. Peter Brook and his company from Paris had brought *The Ik*, which we have seen in London in English, *Ubu*, which we have seen in French, and their first performances in English of *The Conference of the Birds*, which London has not so far seen at all, though I saw it a few months ago in Paris in French.

The company have been playing in the open air, in a disused quarry (which must have made them feel at home, for their Paris theatre would be a Nobel prize for dilapidation if there was one), and they caused the only sensation of the festival that could be thought of in absolute terms. I was at the first night of



Peter Brook: a Conference to remember.

*Conference of the Birds*, and the audience, which had packed the makeshift seating until it groaned in anguish (the seating, that is—the audience was already groaning with the cold), reeled off speeches at the end, wearing the dazed, illuminated look of those who have just had a transforming experience without quite knowing what it was, and which I last saw on the faces of a theatrical audience, appropriately enough, on emerging from Brook's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

First, the matter of quantity. Of the seven theatrical offerings I have seen here, two really had no place in an international arts festival, and one of those should hardly have been on a professional stage. Anywhere in Western Europe or the United States, the director of a musical arts festival conceived on the very large scale of Adelaide's would have had a few hundred theatrical possibilities to choose from and would have been able to leave out the sub-standard, more people spoke. Christopher Hunt, the director here, is not quite in the position of having to take anything that is offered, but he is a good deal closer to that position (particularly with the Australian work) than to that of, say, John Drummond at Edinburgh.

Well, then; there simply is not enough available, considering how difficult and expensive it is to bring artists to

Australia from either or America, to say what is seen is fitting festival purpose. (It is quite impossible to get entire complement of opera company, for and to bring one of the leading symphony orchestras, and it is likewise almost impossible to get a full complement of instrumentalists of any is very unlikely to the Adelaide Festival, part of an international

But there is less pit lying bare before the feet of an Festival director. The absolute standard, of but valid and useful in which the best is simply and all the way. And the question is not fulfilled in Australia.

Christopher Hunt, I said, the entire complement of a symphony orchestra. I saw such a such a because he has been largely and frequently, orchestras of Europe, United States, and of one of those orchestras not have time to fade away before the next another is entering. I judged alongside. It was to hear the ringing Adelaide accorded to saw Philharmonic, but the same fortunate performance, only a few that the Warsaw or no better than, say, the Philharmonic of the (Nationale de Paris on day. And in these spaces, only a few would insist on judgment alongside. It was to hear the ringing Adelaide accorded to saw Philharmonic, but the same fortunate performance, only a few that the Warsaw or no better than, say, the Philharmonic of the (Nationale de Paris on day. And in these spaces, only a few would insist on judgment alongside. 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## POLARIS AND AFTER

A Defence White Paper which is published yesterday steps into the right direction by closing more facts, and considerably more figures, than has hitherto been the case. The verbatim objective is to keep people more aware of the sea before the country, and to ensure that the debate which the issue is informed and constructive. It refers only in passing, however, to the single most important, most emotive decision which still has to be made, namely replacement for Polaris as Britain's strategic deterrent in 1990.

Successive governments have successfully concealed the truth, and particularly the size of the Chevaline, the anti-warhead improvement programme, until Mr Pym disclosed it in the Commons two weeks ago. One can understand the reasons for such concealment, but it remains regrettable. Moreover, it would be a pity if the Cabinet made a decision over the Polaris succession without taking the public into its confidence. The subject is difficult, the science involved is complex and classified. But it is so difficult that the Government can feel justified in releasing virtually nothing.

There would seem to be four options (although the Government is reluctant even to use that much). The first is to replace Polaris with any of all-in other words abandon an independent deterrent. This would appear with those who feel comfortable, morally and really, over our possession but is inarguably a terrible option.

The second also has a respectable rationale. Rather than spend billions of pounds on building and maintaining a fleet which is unlikely ever to be used, our limited resources could be put to more conventional equipment. The forces would be well able to defend themselves against an offensive by nuclear means, then would the nuclear threshold be lowered and indeed the threat of altogether removed? To balance the argument tilts their way. To abandon the rest would be a mistake. It des Britain, and Nato, with

the only form of strategic nuclear weapon which does not fall under the direct jurisdiction of the President of the United States. It improves, rather than lessens, Britain's security and makes it less likely that this country would be threatened with nuclear attack. That we might use our deterrent first is unthinkable. We do however retain the ability to retaliate—and with sufficient guarantee that we could inflict unacceptable punishment on an aggressor.

The White Paper reminds us, as the head of Polaris missiles, carries more explosive power than all the munitions used in the Second World War, and no aggressor could be sure that none of those sixteen missiles would penetrate his defences.

The second option is to invest in some form of cruise missile: air-launched, ground-launched or, preferably, submarine-launched. Cruise missiles are smaller, individually cheaper than ballistic missiles, can be extremely accurate—and at present would stand a reasonable chance of penetrating Soviet air defences. We could perhaps develop a cruise missile in Britain, but would probably do better to purchase the system from the United States, assuming American willingness to sell. (Ground-launched cruise missiles are to be sited in Britain, under American control as part of Nato's theatre nuclear force.)

But the cruise missile is subsonic at present, and to guarantee retaliation on an equal scale to that promised by a ballistic missile we would probably need more submarine-launched cruise missiles. It has been calculated by at least one authority that the option could end up by being more, rather than less expensive than a ballistic missile replacement. Moreover, what is perhaps the most valid objection, the cruise missile would involve a new technology and operating technique for Britain. It is probably better, given the small size of our deterrent force and the limited risks we can take in our investment, to stick with the devil that we know rather than the devil we do not.

The option which the Ministry of Defence favours and which, it is thought, the Government will probably take, is to purchase the American Trident-1 or C-4 missile. We would need to build

new submarines to house it—but we would need to build new submarines, anyway. The package which is thought to be most likely involves five submarines, compared to our present fleet of only four each equipped with 16 Trident-1 missiles. To buy the missiles from the United States, develop our own warheads, and build our own submarines would cost about £5,000m over a 10-year period.

Trident-1 has multiple independent warheads, has a range of 4,000 miles, compared with the 2,800 miles of Polaris, and is much more accurate. Assuming improvements in the technology of anti-submarine detection, the advantages in range, accuracy and targeting should help to decrease the vulnerability of our strategic deterrent force. The cost of £5,000m is heavy but it is one which we can live with. It is certainly difficult to imagine how we could spend that amount on conventional weapons and add, as significantly, to the country's defences.

There is however a fourth option which is worth considering seriously. It is to retain Polaris for longer than officially envisaged, and simply build four, or perhaps five new submarines to carry it. There is a respected body of opinion which argues that Polaris would still imply enough risk for an enemy to act as a realistic deterrent into the next century. We would need to ensure that we could support the system after the Americans have phased out Polaris themselves in the mid-1980s. But the cost would be less than that of buying Trident-1—although again the Ministry believes that the difference would not be very great. We have already invested £1,000m in the warhead improvement programme. Moreover, by the end of the century anti-submarine detection might have advanced so far that even Trident-1 might be a deterrent in which we could no longer rely.

If it is best that the Government should opt for Trident-1, it should do so only after giving serious consideration to the retention of Polaris. Britain needs however an informed public debate on the subject which only the Government can provide the material for. That surely should be the first priority.

## PORTUGAL'S RIGHTWARD TREND

strikes and demonstrations taking place in the Alentejo, a south of Portugal, are the sign of the convulsions the country has been through since the military take-over in 1974. For many years Alentejo was a region of estates and poor, landless peasants. In the aftermath of 1974 revolution many of the estates were taken over, with encouragement of the leftist movement of the time, cooperatives were set up to run them. In 1977, however, when a new land reform bill was passed, the government policy had back much, but not all, of the land to the former owners. The process began before the government took over at the beginning of this year. But now being carried through more determination than before, and it is meeting resistance from many of the peasants themselves, particularly the co-operatives, many of whom are communists. The militant peasants are pressing the policy in simple terms as a reversion by Senhor Soares to the government to the Salazar dictatorship, hardly that, because the land is to be returned, and it is being distributed

in smaller lots to new owners. Some of the co-operatives are to be maintained. But the inequities of the past have led to great bitterness among many of the peasants, who now see themselves being dispossessed, and that has made them receptive to leftist propaganda. It is noticeable that the Communist Party itself, with its Stalinist traditions and its strong position in the Alentejo, is not in fact the most outspoken. In a recent speech Major Otelio Saraiva de Carvalho, one of the leaders of the leftist tendency in the armed forces, called for an armed uprising in the region and a march on Lisbon; he was sharply criticized by the party.

The Democratic Alliance, a centre-right coalition, won the election last December on an undertaking to put an end to the leftist trend of the years after 1974 and to set the Portuguese economy on a new, non-socialist basis. It has an overall majority in Parliament, but is in an uneasy position because by the terms of the constitution a new election has to be held this October. So, with less than a year in which to prove itself, it has had to push ahead with the policies which it promised, and one of them is the handing back of

land in the Alentejo. Another is the issue of a decree which paves the way for the setting up of private banks and insurance companies alongside those that were nationalized after the 1974 revolution. Opinion polls suggest that it remains popular.

There are difficulties, however, about another of its main objectives, the revision of the constitution, which declares socialism to be the goal of government policy, because that would require a two-thirds majority in Parliament. There is also constant tension with President Eanes, who made it clear during the election campaign that he was opposed to democratic action, and retains considerable powers. So Senhor Sá Carneiro would like, not only to win the election in October, but to see a new and more sympathetic president elected next spring. It would then be possible to revise the constitution by referendum, without having to refer the issue to Parliament. It will not be easy to defeat President Eanes, because he is himself a popular figure. But Senhor Sá Carneiro has good reason for believing that the general line of his policies is approved. He just has to be sure that resistance to them, particularly in the Alentejo, does not get out of hand.

## Church unity

the Reverend Dr Kenneth G.

For those who take the ecumenical movement seriously Easter 1980 is a date which sticks in the mind, for that is the day by which the members of the Faith and the Conference (Nottingham) agreed to hope that the churches would have moved into a new phase of unity. The hope has not been seen. How should Christians to their fact? I humbly suggest in three ways.

With gratitude for progress so much has happened locally, and more the Churches are joining and working together, vital involvement of the Roman Catholics in so many places is being new and exhilarating. Over the Churches are no longer content with rather vague about "underlying spiritual unity". We now talk about "visible unity". That is sound incarnational language. We must not only be united in mission, it is more integral to mission. With penitence that we have moved further. We ought not to apologize for deep convictions held. Yet, if it is pleaded it is adherence to principle that keeps us apart, one has to ask that we have given sufficient to the principle of compromise. That principle involves the of honourable compromise to those matters which do touch the fundamental truths which the progress of the depends. Must it be argued, for example, that the admission of women to the priesthood is an issue which falls into that category. Over strong may be the conviction of Christians on both sides

in that debate? It would be a different matter if some of the Churches believed in the divinity of Our Lord, and others did not.

3. With hope that the 1980s may see significant further progress. The proposals shortly to be published by the Churches Council for Covenanting in England offer the chance of a long step forward, involving as they do the mutual recognition of ministers and ministries in the five member Churches of the Council. There are not wanting those who have already declared that the Covenant will not command the assent of the Churches which asked for it to be produced. It is much to be hoped that the folk in the local areas where unity is far advanced and who have pleaded for movement along these lines at the national level will, together with others, mobilize support and confound the critics.

If the Churches sign the Covenant, they must also resolve to make it work. We must see it as a vital step towards a vital goal the final shape of which is yet to be revealed and as a contribution not just to the unity of the Church but to the healing of the wounds of the world. Yours faithfully,

KENNETH G. GREET,  
Secretary of the Methodist Conference,  
1 Central Buildings,  
Westminster, SW1.

disinterested manner. They often have a vested interest in looking up values to maintain their depleted revenues and, in consequence, line up with the commercial exploiters of communities.

It is a constitutional absurdity that the electorate's only appeal, in these cases, is to a referee who is also in the ring as a protagonist. We need an alternative system, if only to avoid corruption and a lack of open government.

Yours faithfully,

PETER YORK, Chairman,  
Tombridge Civic Society,  
64 Dry Hill Park Road,  
Tombridge,  
Kent.

## Withdrawal from EEC membership

From Mr Leolin Price, QC

Sir, Like Sir Derek Walker-Smith, QC, MP (March 25), I do not think that we should withdraw from our VAT contributions while we remain members of the EEC. We should observe the rules even if tactical advantage would be achieved, by refusing to do so. We should not follow the example of others who, while claiming to be better communicators, pick and choose the rules which they will observe: that has never been our way of doing things; and, while membership of the EEC may have imposed on us other follies, it should not be made an excuse for bad habits.

But, if Sir Derek Walker-Smith's fourth proposition (that we can withdraw from the EEC if the other eight members consent) is intended to suggest that our withdrawal without such consent would be a breach of international law, or of any obligations to the other members, that suggestion is wholly unacceptable. When the possibility of our accession to the EEC was being debated, those who opposed it and many who were sceptical about it were fearful that it might later be said that, once members, we could not legally withdraw. To quiet their misgivings, it was said, loudly and clearly, by those negotiating the accession, that of course we would be able to leave the EEC; in that respect sovereignty would remain with us. The Government of the day, in providing that reassurance, cannot have thought that this option would involve any breach of law; and those with whom they negotiated (as I thought then and think now, foolishly and very unsuccessfully) cannot have thought so.

Of course we are able to leave the EEC without any breach of law. Our membership is now shown to be economically unwise, because our economic interests cannot be reconciled with those of our partners, and politically foolish, because it creates quarrelsome argument with some of our friends, diverting their energies and ours from the real problems which face us; and the constitutional arrangements involved in our membership were always, in my view, unacceptable. To withdraw is more sensible, and much better for our real friendship with France and our other partners, than to continue arguing about the absurdity of the existing situation of the CAP or about our inequitable contribution to the EEC budget.

Yours truly,

LEOLIN PRICE,  
10 Old Square,  
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,  
March 30.

## A matter of dignity

From Mr P. Fletcher

Sir, There has been a remarkable lack of letters in your correspondence columns regarding the recent Budget from your usual source, the House of Lords, so I thought I would write from a more humble council house. I would not come to this because of ill health. I was compelled to end my working life at the age of 60 without an occupational pension of any kind, and since then my wife and I have had to live on state invalidity benefit. This is not really increased each year by the same amount as the state retirement pension to which we are not yet entitled, and each such increase has been more than welcome and has seemed reasonably generous.

Imagine our dismay when we learnt that as from next November we are to lose five per cent of our expected increase, in order to make up for the revenue the Chancellor is compelled to miss because he cannot bring invalidity benefit into the income tax net for another year or two. We shall therefore soon become part of a luckless band of people who will be in the unique position of paying what is in effect income tax two years in advance on a total joint income of some £4,000 a year—a figure at which few married couples are expected to exist, let alone pay tax! It could, I suppose, be possible to get a little more by begging for it, but we would rather starve than beg for what we know in our hearts should be ours by right.

No, Sir, if our country has indeed reached such a parlous state that it is thought seemly to rob the poor in order to maintain the living standards of the rich, then we will live, not for the first time, on bread and margarine and the Government can take their five per cent, but I should be less than human if I did not say that I hope it chokes them!

Yours sincerely,

FRED FLETCHER,  
76 Hallsteads,  
Dove Holes,  
Buxton,  
Derbyshire.

## Treatment for patients

From Dr C. S. Ogg

Sir, If the National Health Service has any function it is presumably to provide treatment for patients who need it. Thus the Appeal Committee's decision reported in *The Times* of March 19, that the Department of Health does not have a duty to provide "kidney machines, heart transplants and pills free to every one who needed them" must not be allowed to pass without comment. Presumably "free" treatment should be rationed and the unlucky, who have also paid their taxes, must perish, or pay for private medical care.

This might be justified for procedures such as cardiac transplantation whose success has not been proven in this country; but it is a far cry from these to established and highly successful forms of treatment such as haemodialysis for chronic kidney failure. By European and American standards, this country provides a shamefully inadequate service for patients with renal failure and such judicial complacency will do nothing to rectify this.

Does the Department of Health have any responsibilities? I wonder what would happen if the Department of Education took the same stance about secondary education. Yours faithfully,

C. S. OGG,  
Guy's Hospital,  
St Thomas Street, SE1.

## Archbishop's enthronement sermon

From Sir Douglas Logan

Sir, The letter from the Reverend Joseph McCulloch (March 25) must have come as a great surprise to many who listened to the sermon delivered by the Archbishop of Canterbury on the occasion of his enthronement last week. It did not, however, come as a surprise to me because I have known the Reverend Joseph McCulloch for nearly 60 years—we were at school together—and the leopard does not change his spots.

The dialogue which he instituted with men and women outside the Christian Church while he was Rector of St Mary-le-Bow was an imaginative innovation but it related only to one facet of the major problem to which the Archbishop was addressing himself. The problem, as our Religious Affairs Correspondent points out today (March 31), is the extent to which the Anglican Church—and indeed all Christian Churches—can come to terms and find common theological ground with non-Christian world religions such as Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism—not to mention Judaism—and completely abandon "the nineteenth century tradition of regarding them as ignorant paganism".

Moreover, to me at least, the sermon was deeply impressive for the humility which the Archbishop displayed in approaching this fundamental issue and the other great responsibilities which his new office imposes on him.

Yours faithfully,

D. W. LOGAN,  
Rosalind,  
Mansfield Street,  
Chilham,  
Kent,  
March 31.

## Custody of children

From Mr John Eekelaar

Sir, Mr Horne (April 1) says that the public would like to know what the evidence is that there is "little sexual bias in the granting of custody". The major study in this country, *Custody after Divorce*, was published by this Centre in 1977. It was based on a representative sample of 855 cases in England and Scotland. In order to establish sexual bias, it was necessary to show, where custody is contested before them, first that they are significantly more likely to return a child from its father to a claimant mother than from the mother to the father, and secondly, that the difference is attributable only to bias and not to other factors, such as the conditions in which the child is living. In fact, the first condition was not met because the evidence overwhelmingly showed that the almost universal outcome of custody disputes was that children remained with the party with whom they were living when the proceedings were instituted, whether this was the father or the mother. This finding contradicted another "popular belief" at the time that judges indulged in widespread prejudicial attitudes towards fathers and mothers.

Almost all contested custody cases will be referred to a divorce court welfare officer for investigation. Preliminary results from a further

From Father Tom Stack

Sir, As an Irish Catholic priest, may I say how encouraged I was to watch the enthronement of Archbishop Runcie on television. The occasion was marked with hope. Dr Runcie spoke in the accents of optimism for which we all long. Would it be flying in the face of the immutable to respectfully suggest that the new Archbishop begin a process leading towards disestablishment? Theervative theology revealed in his homily edged one inexorably towards the vision of such a future.

To embrace this evangelical possibility would further guarantee credibility to the authority of love which he so impressively claimed for the Church of England.

As a member of a big sister church in a little sister island, may I thank him for his words at Canterbury?

Yours sincerely,

TOM STACK,  
Loreto Lodge,  
Foxrock,  
Dublin 18.

From the Reverend D. J. L. Beam  
Sir, The Archbishop has not been in office a week and already the hawks are clawing and pecking at him. There is something very distasteful in such an immediate onslaught of criticism in the letters you published on Saturday, March 23.

When there are those who take on burdensome places of responsibility, often out of duty, even in these self-assertive days, is there no room for encouragement and praise at the beginning of his ministry?

Yours sincerely,

DOUGLAS BEAM,  
12 Fitzroy Square, W1.

study at this centre shows no evidence of bias among the officers against children remaining with their fathers in conditional men's custody. No one has alleged general disregard by the judiciary of these officers' reports.

Since most children remain with their mother when their parents separate, the operation of the principle favouring maintenance of the family status might look like bias in favour of the mother, and may even be represented as such by lawyers to their clients. But this outcome merely reflects the parties' own arrangements when they separated and influential psychiatric opinion has opposed the removal of children from the parent with whom they have been living in unbroken relationship. Conclusions very similar to these have been reached in a large study by the Divorce Law Research Project at Berkeley, California.

While individual instances may occur, there is no basis for a general judicial bias against men as a serious issue against unrealistic expectations of the potential for judicial solutions to these problems and diverts attention from the real difficulties involved in trying to reach solutions which serve children's interests best.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN EKEELAR,  
Centre for Socio-Legal Studies,  
Wolfson College,  
Oxford.

## The motives of President Sadat

From Mr Rafiq Shah Abdullah

Sir, Your emphasis on President Sadat's altruism in accepting the Shah as a guest of his country (March 25) is altogether too sanguine. The same high-minded motives could have been attributed to Colonel Gaddafi when he allowed the defeated Idi Amin to enter Libya. Both the Shah and Amin were dictators, both perpetrated repressive, inhuman and often repulsive acts designed to incite terror in their subjects, both finally met with their respective nemesis and became international pariahs. However, I don't recall reading admiring panegyrics in the English press about the compassionate face of Islam—Gaddafi's version.

After a sensible analysis of Sadat's political motives you conclude, notwithstanding your excruciating mea culpa, with a condescending pat on Sadat's head which reveals little about his "Islamic" motives, still less about Islam. Let me assure you that, like your civilisation, the Muslim world generally is not too preoccupied with the good opinion of other cultures including that of the West. The quality of arrogance is not unique to the West and the Muslim world continues to translate and interpret reality according to its own values. Like all great civilisations Islamic culture is complex and diverse. Indeed the concept of compassion is not unfamiliar to Muslims, but the stern thread of belief in just retribution runs through all Islamic thinking, however distasteful this may be in Western eyes.

I would like your followers to turn the other cheek when their enemies smote them; the Muslim, on the contrary, are exhorted to retaliate, but with justice. Therefore, it is an implicit Western assumption that Western culture, based as it is on Christian values, is morally superior. The truth of the matter is not so pristine. In fact the West has sentimentalised and consequently trivialised the quality of mercy and has saddled itself with a sense of guilt and the vice of hypocrisy, or, in this case, of selective compassion. I would not present the modern Western states as exactly caring societies; more sensationally and perhaps more pertinently, I do not detect much compassion in the Nuremberg trials, for example. Most Iranians regard the Shah in the same light as the Allies regarded the Nazi war criminals.

I would, therefore, suggest that Mr Sadat is not so much concerned with demonstrating Islamic compassion, which in any case appears to be exclusively reserved for his socially acceptable friends, with whom Western support to replace his plummeting credit in the Muslim world. Mr Sadat is too much of an experienced politician to allow real compassion rather than calculation to dominate his acts. He may use the argument of compassion as a good public relations exercise to curvy favour with the West, but that has nothing to do with the Islamic sense of mercy, which cannot be divorced from its sense of justice.

RAFIQ SHAH ABDULLA,  
16 Coleridge Mansions,  
Old Brompton Road, SW5,  
March 27.

## Freedom of Mormons

From Mr J. J. Larkin

Sir, Just to note a correct: a misstatement in William Rees-Mogg's otherwise fine recent article (March 15) on the Utah Mormons and Governor Reagan.

He writes "Mormons have to time and have to give their time to the church." This statement conflicts with one of the basic tenets of our belief, namely that everyone on earth is a child of Our Heavenly Father and as such have their "free agency"—it being an eternal principle. In other words, we have a choice as to whether or not we give our money or our time to the church.

While both tithing and service are a part of the established church programme, there is no compulsion involved.

Sincerely,  
JAMES LARKIN,  
Quaker Lane,  
Greenwich, Ct 06830,  
USA,  
March 25.

## Far behind

From Dr Oliver Gillie

Sir, In your issue of March 22 you refer to the previous day as the first day of spring. This is a widely accepted meteorological basis. March 21 is the spring equinox and falls exactly halfway between the longest and the shortest days. So if June 21 is midsummer, March 21 was the middle of spring.

In fact, of course, neither is the case since the climate lags behind the position of the sun, due to the time necessary to warm the cold land mass and the sea. There is no reason why this lag should be exactly six and a half weeks, and indeed it varies with local conditions. The seasons can never be exactly defined (they are certainly not all the same length) and to attempt to do so can only foster false hopes, to be dashed by the inevitable blizzards.

Yours faithfully,

OLIVER GILLIE,  
Langholme 29,  
CH 6330 Cham,  
Switzerland,  
March 24.

## Union 'day of action'

From Mr George Miles

Sir, Hundreds of thousands of people will make elaborate preparations and incur vast expense to beat the Unions' Day of Protest on May 14. They will be disappointed, angry and fuming yet, in most cases, frustrated and beaten. Would it not be much better if the Government or Parliament declared May 14 an extra holiday and we all—trade unionists and others—enjoyed ourselves in our different ways?

I remain, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE MILES,  
15 Dorncliffe Road, SW6,  
March 27.

From Mr Peter King

Sir, The sad news that the Wiener Library intends to move to Tel Aviv raises important questions. Is there still a place for Jews and things Jewish outside Israel? Do the Jews of the Diaspora still form real communities in their own right?

If so, it is essential that they should have their own cultural institutions. They must also be prepared to make the necessary sacrifices to keep such institutions going in difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

PETER KING,  
Department of Medieval History,  
University of St Andrews,

## Wiener Library

From Dr Hartmut Pogge von Strandmann

Sir, The letter of the Director of the Wiener Library (March 31) which he wrote in response to a letter complaining about the planned move of the Wiener Library to Tel Aviv is disappointing. He has not answered the question as to why a proper appeal campaign has not been launched to assist the library with its funding. Thus the impetuous users of the library, ie, ordinary historians, to whom the Director refers, have not been approached to organize help. Even now the Director and his Trustees could convene a big appeal committee with the assistance of distinguished historians to start a campaign.

Several years ago certain proposals existed to find another home for the library in Britain. Negotiations took place to transfer the library to St Antony's College, Oxford, to Reading University and to the London School of Economics, but nothing came of it. Already at that time the Trustees and the Director seemed to be attracted by the idea of shipping the library to Tel Aviv, a move which was, incidentally, opposed by the founder of the library, Dr Wiener.

The Director also does not answer the question as to why the microfilm material could not be sent to Tel Aviv instead of the originals. Everyone who has had anything to do with microfilm knows of the

tremendous cost of microfilming. Could that money not be better spent on keeping the library in this country? There is also no reason why the substantial subsidy the German Foreign Office has paid over the years and is still paying, should continue once the library has gone to Tel Aviv. Perhaps the Director could inform the public what the cost of the microfilming is, who is paying for it and how high the annual total German subsidy is? It is in Britain that the library has been of immense value to thousands of researchers. The move of the original material to Tel Aviv would create a serious gap here which no other institute could fill in this country.

Yours faithfully,

H. POGGE VON STRANDMANN,  
University College,  
Oxford.












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## Stock Exchange Prices

# Quieter tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 24. Dealings End, April 11. § Contango Day, April 14. Settlement Day, April 21  
 ‡ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

**LAING**  
make ideas take shape

**ock markets**  
Index 432.1, down 0.3  
Gilts 64.98, up 0.16

**erling**  
1550, up 1.25 cents  
lex 72.7, up 0.4

**ollar**  
lex 91.6, down 0.2

**ild**  
11, down \$2

**oney**  
18 sterling 18.1-18.4  
18 Euro 19.1-19.4  
18 Euro 19.1-19.4

**BRIEF**

**loss for  
ish  
P's freight  
iness**

Rail's freight business is slow climb towards its old planned back last year. Instead of forecast profit, the earned a £9m loss de-government directive not break even.

**contract**  
Civil Engineering has a £16.8m contract department of Trans- the seven and a half the dual carriageway eastern by-pass.

**tile factory**  
Plastics yesterday £4.5m plastic bottles it Abbey Meadow. The company intend a further £2.1m loan.

**ian stock**  
Ministry of Finance of Rhodesia has provided on payments of id redemption money ment stocks due December 1985 and 1979.

**n rate slows**  
shows signs of in Italy with the tent yesterday of a unit rise in wholesale February, after one of at in January.

**ic disc plan**  
Peripheral Equip- (OPE) has signed an with Memorex Cor- California jointly to produce and market memory discs for data systems.

**ad beers up**  
ices of Whitebread to rise by 1p a pint r from next Tuesday on to the 2p rise from budget increases. Whitebread put its 3p a pint last Decem- ber was less than was' increases.

**cuts oil output**  
state oil company is decision for technical 2 or 3 per cent from an output of 1 tonnes in the past

**ys total shares**  
Western Europe is to 1 per cent share in (Zinad) Netherlands, the Total refinery ing. La Compagnie des Petroles retains a operator.

**await crude**  
Dutch/Shell and Gulf o sign contracts this s Kuwait for much plies of crude oil.

**n Boeing deal**  
on Airways has \$1,500m (£697m) con- Boeing Corporation Boeing 767-200S.

## US prime rates move up to 20pc with no let-up in industry loan demand

From Anthony Hilton  
New York, April 2

The astonishing upward surge in American interest rates continued yesterday when Chemical Bank became the first to set a prime rate of 20 per cent. This is the amount the bank charges its most creditworthy industrial customers, but most loans cost considerably more.

Several other banks followed: First National Bank of Chicago and Continental Illinois among the giants, with Harris Trust and Savings and the Bank of St Louis among the smaller fry who had joined Chemical on the record-setting 20 per cent mark by midday.

Prime rates have now increased 14 times since January 1, almost entirely as a result of the Federal Reserve Board's moves. When it began its credit tightening policy last October prime rates were only

13 1/2 per cent. The main reason why rates are continuing to rise is that demand for loans from the business community is still strong. The most recent figures released by the Fed showed that commercial and industrial loans on the books of the nation's large banks jumped \$818m last week, and \$1,400m the previous week.

The Fed has already asked banks to cut back commercial lending to show no more than 9 per cent increase on last year's levels, but currently loans are running 13 per cent higher.

Traditionally the banks relied on cheap money from customers' current accounts—which carry no interest—to meet this industrial loan demand. But because of the high returns offered elsewhere, this source has all but dried up. Instead the banks have been

forced to issue high coupon certificates to raise the cash to meet their customers' needs. The nominal cost of these funds to the banks is 17-18 per cent. But the Fed also recently increased the amount of non-interest-bearing reserves the banks must hold, and this has the effect of adding a further 2 or 3 per cent to their effective money cost. So the banks say even at the current record levels they are not making any money.

Bank analysts now see rates peaking in a few weeks, provided business demand slackens as the recession bites. But they say it could take longer because a downturn in economic activity will often increase the demand for loans for a month or two, given that businessmen borrow money to finance larger level of stock, before they take a decision to cut back on production.

exchange markets as much as possible in recent months, which explains the negligible increase in the level of the reserves through intervention in March, up to \$24,138m before changing the valuation of gold. Borrowings under the exchange cover scheme amounted to \$163m and repayments totalled \$208m.

The latest revaluation heralds a more cautious policy by the Government to the value of gold and some other foreign currencies. Under the old formula gold was revalued to bring its national worth in the reserves into line with 75 per cent of its average price of the previous three months.

## Reserves \$204m higher in March

By David Blake  
Economics Editor

Britain's reserves went up by \$204m (£94m) as a result of official intervention in the foreign exchange markets in March. But the value of our reserves has been increased by more than \$3,000m to \$26,963m (£12,540m) because of an annual revaluation of the gold component in the Bank of England's stock of foreign assets.

News of the latest increase in the reserves came on a day when the pound continued in the foreign exchange markets. It rose one and a quarter cents against the dollar to close at

\$2.1550. Its effective exchange rate rose to 72.7 per cent of its December 1971 level, up 0.4 percentage points on the day. There was no sign of Bank of England intervention in the currency markets during the course of the day.

It was generally a good day for European currencies, with the Deutsche mark, Swiss and French francs making ground against the dollar. The increase in prime rates in the United States to 20 per cent came too late to have any real effect on European markets, but the yen fell in spite of heavy intervention by the Tokyo authorities. The Government has been keen to keep out of foreign

## Treasury forecasts 'considerable' increase in unemployment over next 18 months

By Caroline Atkinson

Manufacturing output will fall by 4.5 per cent this year, according to the Treasury's own forecasts and unemployment will rise "quite considerably" over the next 18 months.

Treasury officials disclosed this while being questioned yesterday by the new House of Commons select committee for the Treasury and Civil Service. However, they refused to give the Treasury's precise forecast of the level of unemployment next year. They indicated that the Chancellor did not want this revealed and Mr Edward Heath, the Treasury's spokesman, said that the committee would ask the Chancellor to make the information public when he gave evidence. This is scheduled for April 14, but may be postponed.

The committee was asking the Treasury officials about the budget documents published last week, including the Government's medium-term financial

strategy and the White Paper on public spending. The Members of Parliament had been well briefed by their three specialist advisers and all produced papers which were fairly critical of the budget documents. They suggested that growth may be lower in the medium term than assumed by the Government in its financial strategy, that unemployment will rise to between 2.2 million and 2.5 million and that public spending will not fall as outlined in the White Paper.

The Treasury representatives stressed that the assumption of 1 per cent a year growth in output for the three years after 1980, was not a forecast. The Treasury's economic model has been constrained to show output growth of this level for the later years. Although the Government has said that the 1 per cent assumption is cautious, many economists disagree.

The rough profile underlying the Treasury's medium-term financial strategy is that output will fall

by about 4 per cent in 1981 after the forecast 2 1/2 per cent fall this year and will then begin to recover. Growth is expected to speed up in 1983 when the Treasury assumes that output will grow by more than 2 per cent.

Despite the economic rebound assumed by the Government, the Treasury officials suggested that manufacturing output may continue to decline throughout this Parliament. North Sea oil is expected to provide about half of the average 1 per cent a year growth assumed.

The officials agreed that if the Government's growth assumption proved too high there would be little or no room for tax cuts in the next four years. The Treasury has four reasons for hoping that the economy will turn round after the recession this year and next.

The first is that the stock cycle, which is now having a big deflationary impact on the

## Gas Bill may curb industrial users

Anxiety about recent unprecedented demand for gas has caused Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, to issue legislation aimed at restricting the concessions at present given to larger customers.

The Gas Bill details of which were released late last night, would relieve the British Gas Corporation of its obligation to supply customers taking more than 25,000 thermes a year on a long term basis.

In future these large customers would have to rely on negotiable contracts for their supply. The Bill would also enable the British Gas Corporation to change the basis of charging from a tariff basis to one based on contract. This would give the corporation more control over the amount and rate of off-take.

Mr Howell said that the increase in demand for gas in the last year "far exceeds BGC's planned rate of expansion and they do not have the distribution and storage facilities to meet peak demand". One of the aims of the Bill is to place new and expanding industries on an equal footing with other types of customer. The pressures on demand for gas have been so great recently that British Gas has had to ration the provision of new supplies almost entirely to those who have a statutory right to be connected because they are within 25 yards of a gas main.

Considerable concern has been expressed recently that this rationing has placed businesses being developed at a disadvantage because they could not obtain supplies. Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, said recently that he had received "frequent and many" complaints from companies

## Bank of England sets up approved list of financial institutions

As the first step in implementing the Banking Act, the Bank of England yesterday published a three-tier list of recognised banks, deposit-taking institutions and companies still awaiting a decision about their status.

The list includes more than 600 names and only companies on it and organisations such as the Post Office and building societies which are exempt can undertake a deposit-taking business.

The first tier of fully fledged banks recognised by the Bank of England includes all the main British and foreign banks. The second tier consists of institutions which are not banks but can take deposits. The 350 companies which have applied but are awaiting a decision make up the third tier.

Last week there was a late rush of 100 applications before the Monday deadline. The Banking Act passed last October stipulates that those wishing to take on deposits have to comply with several regulations; companies were given

six months to apply. After an application is made the Bank of England has six months to decide on some companies may have to wait until the autumn.

The list of those still awaiting a decision includes some of the main finance houses such as UDT and Mercantile Credit. It also includes several foreign banks and some companies which had carried on banking business under the old Department of Trade regulations, the so-called section 123 banks.

Under the new rules institutions have to provide details of their business, controlling shareholders and directors and managers. The Bank of England will supervise operations and for the first time there is a deposit protection scheme of up to £7,500.

The basis for recognition as a fully fledged bank in the first tier is high reputation and standing in the banking community and the performance of many banking services, including deposits and lending, in most cases some ability in foreign exchange, financial advice and

foreign finance is sought. Deposit-taking institutions, which cannot call themselves banks, do not need to offer such a range. A company may start as a deposit taker and gradually move to full banking status.

It is now far more difficult to enter the deposit-taking business. New applicants will have to put up at least £250,000 capital and to apply for banking status a capital of at least £5m is needed.

The Act was passed after the experience of the fringe banks' collapse and because of the need to harmonise EEC regulations on banking. It is the first time that the Bank of England has been given statutory supervisory powers. Previous legislation referred mainly to control of the economy; control of the banking system was informal.

Foreign banks operating in London will be controlled either by the Bank of England or by a supervisory authority in their own countries. List of banks, page 26

## 450,000 textile jobs 'at risk' in Britain

By John Huxley

Textile and clothing industries in Europe will suffer serious and lasting damage unless Community markets are protected against further penetration from imports, ministers have been told.

Some 450,000 jobs in Britain alone could be at risk unless the framework for world trade in textiles is altered in the 1980s, according to a submission by the British Textile Confederation which represents employers and unions. Its publication has been timed to coincide with the start of informal discussions on the trading regime to replace the GATT Multi Fibre Arrangement, the present international agreement which is due to expire at the end of next year. Most of the bilateral trade agreements between the Community and its low-cost suppliers, for which the Multi Fibre Arrangement provides the basis, expire one year later.

The MFA has already been renewed once, for five years in 1977. It attempts to balance the aspirations of developing countries to gain access to world markets with the desire

of developed countries to protect domestic industry.

Among the changes sought by the BTC is a 10-year MFA. The longer period, it argues, will allow industry to plan with greater confidence. It also wants imports of main products from low-wage and state-trading countries to be brought within ceilings, set at an acceptable level for European industry.

So far, no attempt has been made to specify the levels. But Mr Leonard Regan, president of the BTC, explained that without any sustained growth in domestic demand between now and 1981-82, levels will have to be set below those applying to 1982 under the present arrangements.

British textile and clothing leaders, whose views have also been made known through the British Clothing Industry's Council for Europe, want to avoid new agreements which permit further automatic growth of low-cost imports when domestic demand fails to grow. A growth/recession clause relating growth of imports to demand is seen as essential. When set, ceilings and the



Mr Leonard Regan, president of the British Textile Confederation: import ceilings will have to be lower

country-by-country quotas which they embrace should be rigidly observed and an automatic cut-off provision applied when limits are reached. Saving the British industry, page 13

## Company profits hit by strikes

By Our Financial Staff

Three engineering companies reported profits for 1979 yesterday, and all of them said that their figures had been affected by strikes.

The engineering strike, according to GKN, knocked some £15m off profits, which as the trading level nevertheless increased from £157.7m to £181.9m. The group, whose turnover increased from £1,755m to £1,961m, reported that the signs of recession were starting to emerge in the second half of the year, and that first quarter profits in the present year will be severely affected by the steel strike.

BICC, the cable and engineering group which includes Balfour Beatty, the civil engineers, increased pretax profits from £56.5m to £55.8m. After two difficult years BICC Cables, the key company, raised pre-tax profits by 39 per cent to £10m. Group turnover was £1,190m against £1,121m, although overseas sales fell. Higher interest charges, a strong pound and last year's strikes all reduced profits.

Bridon, the wire and rope manufacturer, saw profits fall from £17.1m before tax to £3.59m on sales of £296m compared with £289m. The downturn was due to £11.8m of trading losses from Ashlow, whose manufacturing side has been closed.

The rest of the group showed an underlying rise in pre-tax profits of 12 per cent to £15.4m. Financial Editor, page 23

## Engineering proposals backed by NEDC

By Patricia Tisdall  
Management Correspondent

The National Economic Development Council supported the principle of the Engineering Authority, proposed by the Fininvest inquiry into the status of engineers, at its monthly meeting yesterday even though its component groups had yet to finalise their opinions on details.

The consensus of the Council, on which the Government, unions and employers are represented, was that a central body with authority could help to focus attention on the undoubted problem of recognising the potential of engineers.

Sir Denis Rook, chairman of the British Gas Corporation and one of the two nationalised industry representatives, said that the attitude of industry takes to engineers is crucial. Mr Richard O'Brien, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, was also concerned about the low status of engineers and thought the attitude of directors to engineers could be improved.

The Confederation of British Industry is due to discuss the Fininvest recommendations at its council meeting later this month, but its working party supports the principle of a new authority although it believes such an organization should work through existing professional institutions.

Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, said in a memorandum to the NEDC that his department had consulted over 350 industrialists and institutions on a number of

key issues including the establishment of a new engineering authority. The Government intends to indicate its response in the summer after the proposed authority and the Engineering Industry Training Board should be clarified so that the work of the EITB is not undermined.

Mr Len Murray, the TUC General Secretary, in a formal response to the Government, said the union body had asked for speed in implementing the recommendations. The TUC General Council attach importance to the establishment of the proposed authority. Its view is that without a statutory body with adequate trade union representation, the majority of the recommendations will stand little hope of being translated into reality.

Its only reservation on this point is an observation that the relationship between the proposed authority and the Engineering Industry Training Board should be clarified so that the work of the EITB is not undermined.

Drack Harris writes: The four senior institutions in the engineering profession — chemical, electrical, civil and mechanical, made a joint move yesterday for the governing council of the new engineering authority backed by the Fininvest report to be dominated by engineers nominated by chartered institutions.

Of 15 members of the authority's governing council eight should be appointed from lists submitted by chartered institutions but "reflecting" the main disciplines represented by the four institutions, according to the joint submission. The eight should not be transferred directly by any institution, the submission emphasizes.

### PRICE CHANGES

Jackson 30p to 170p	FC Finance	3p to 51p
11p to 200p	13p to 133p	
12p to 100p	Howard Mach	2p to 23p
15p to 635p	Lake & Elliot	5p to 34p
10p to 155p	Porter Chad	5p to 56p
6p to 54p	Phoenix	8p to 205p
3p to 35p	Royal	10p to 315p
1p to 5p	Scint Piran	5p to 65p
25p to 900p	Wardle B	20p to 275p
6p to 290p	Xarrow	

### THE POUND

	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells	buys	sells
\$	2.05	1.98	11.58	11.08
£	31.10	29.60	113.00	107.00
¥	22.25	20.75	159.5	152.5
Kc	2.52	2.45	9.98	9.58
Sk	13.49	12.94	4.19	3.74
Lk	8.70	8.30	2.30	2.14
100	10.00	9.60	62.50	49.50
Dm	4.40	4.15		
90	99.75	87.25		
11	11.15	10.70		
1	1.15	1.11		
1995.00	1995.00			
573.00	544.00			
da G14	4.75	4.56		

## Dunhill, with 37 per cent of shares, out to buy a new House

### Could this be the fall of the House of Asprey?

Mandelay was burnt. The Bourbons learnt nothing and forgot nothing. York fell in battle. The Usurers went mad. Nothing so major is befalling the ancient gilded name and house of Asprey, the Bond Street jeweller and silversmith founded by William Asprey in 1781, which is tottering because it cannot stop quarrelling about whether to accept pieces of silver (or least sterling) on offer from the House of Dunhill.

Dunhill, a name redolent of luxury, is a business success. Alfred Dunhill knows how to sell cigarettes, lighters, fountain pens, clothing and after-shave, the world over at quality prices. But it has never scored the financial backing of others. It is 50.5 per cent owned by Rothmans, itself part of the

worldwide empire of Mr Anton Rupert, a South African. Now Dunhill wants Asprey. From a springboard of a 37 per cent holding it is now bidding for the shares it does not own. Normally 37 per cent would be more than halfway home, but in this case it is not necessarily so.

The Aspreys split nearly down the middle between those who want to sell, and those who say strenuously that they will never sell out. The decision is led by Mr John Asprey aged 43 and his father Mr Eric Asprey, the chairman. Mr John Asprey is believed to be the largest individual shareholder, but at most the diehards control only 47 per cent.

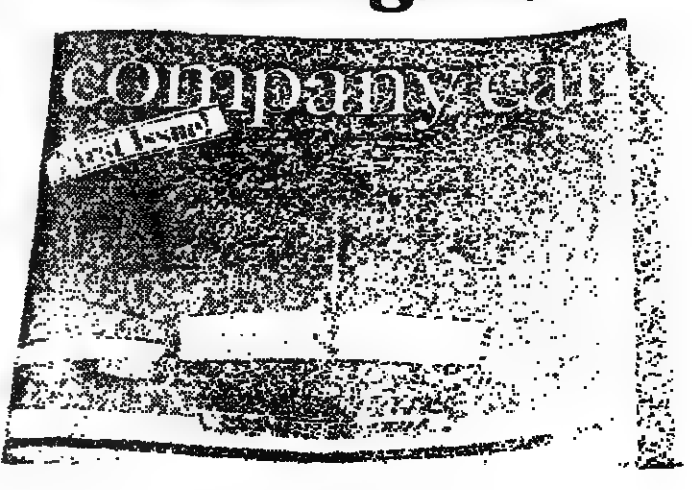
Dunhill's aim is to add to its 37 per cent the 16 per cent spoken for by Asprey trusts, whose trustees who are charged to consider whether a formal bid might not be in the best interests of their wards.

Here Dunhill seems a trifle meau. Encouraged by some Asprey shareholders who accepted £28.50 a share last June, Dunhill offers the same again now, either as cash or in loan stocks. But at this price Asprey is valued at only £11.4m or less than 596 times the earnings it made in the year to 1979.

Dunhill and Asprey Establishment, its joint partner in the bid and controlling shareholder in Altabir Bank of Dubai, would not have got this far but for a family feud.

In the early 1970s brothers Mr Algeon Asprey and Mr Harry Asprey, nephews of Mr John Asprey, were told to re-

After reading this you'll never own a car again.







## Saudi deal with Japan on \$20,000m complex

A group of Japanese companies have signed an agreement with Saudi Arabia to construct a feasibility study into a \$20,000m (£9,300m) petrochemical complex on the Persian Gulf. Construction could start in 1985.

In return for Japanese assistance in the project, Saudi Arabia is willing to provide "bonus crude oil" in accordance with criteria to be established by the Saudis later.

These are reported to include the amount of equity capital of the participating companies and the degree of their commitment.

### US cars target down

American car makers have set second quarter production schedules which are 21 per cent down on last year's levels. The target of 1,539 million cars is the lowest for 15 years.

### \$450m Greek loan

The Central Bank of Greece is seeking a \$450m (£209m) loan over eight years. The loan will have nine lead managers including Lloyds Bank International.

### EEC steel fines

The EEC Commission has fined French and German steel producers an overall 900,000 European units of account (£540,000) for quota and price fixing agreements contravening the steel and coal treaty's competition laws.

### German jobless down

West German unemployment fell 116,500 to 875,900 in March. The unemployment rate fell to 3.8 per cent from 4.3 per cent in February.

### New VW plant

The transfer of an army plant in Michigan to Volkswagen of America for a car assembly plant has been approved by the House of Representatives.

### Oil import costs

EEC oil import costs have risen by an average 122 per cent since the end of 1978. Pre-tax prices to consumers for the main oil products rose by 79 per cent. Britain has the highest pre-tax prices in the Community for diesel and heating oil.

## Computing services sector offers employment and wealth, survey shows

### Young industry with a bright future

The computing services industry is "one of the brightest aspects of this country's economy and offers much potential both as a source of employment and as a wealth producer", according to a financial survey of the industry published by Jordan Surveys, of London. The industry is demonstrating consistent growth, at present of about 20 per cent a year.

Computing services embraces computer software houses and consultancies, systems companies, computer bureaux, and recruitment and training organizations. Their billings for 1978 were more than £330m—a 25 per cent increase over the previous year.

But, the market review introducing the survey says, a more realistic and pragmatic approach by both financiers and entrepreneurs is needed if the potential of the industry is to be realized and its benefits enjoyed by society as a whole.

The review is written by Mr Joseph Roth of the Business Industrial Management consultancy, a former chairman of the control and automation division of the Institution of Electrical Engineers.

He says that the entrepreneur and the financier must find a way of coming together. Without a rapid influx of capital, developments in other countries will overtake the United Kingdom and the opportunity of establishing a strong, competitive industry will have been lost.

In other countries, engineers and scientists play a big role in company management, but in Britain, the main role in corporate decision-making is that of the accountant. Because of his training he is ill-equipped to assess the meaning of technology and cannot recognize its potential in assessing specific proposals.

In other countries in Europe the financial institutions are more sympathetic to the present-day entrepreneurial technology. Mr Roth says, and so are better able to finance the emergent company. They understand that technology requires capital for long-term investment and that the return will take time to emerge.

Equally, the entrepreneur in Britain needs to change his stance. In the past he has shown little patience for the financier, and has not been able to communicate with him.

Today, the pace of technological change is swift and there is a need greater than before for United Kingdom entrepreneurs and financial institutions to get together to exploit the world market in technology-based areas.

Such is the pace of change in the computing services area that the relative positions, and the actual business figures, of the leading companies surveyed by Jordan provide a fair number of surprises for those not close to the industry itself.

In order of size of turnover, the top 10 companies in the industry are Datacil (ICL's software arm); Compuware (the National Coal Board's computer bureau subsidiary); BOC Datastore; CMG Computer Management Group (the CAP-CEP group); THF Group Services (the Trafalgar House management and administrative services company); Centre-File (whose parent company is National Westminster Bank); Scienc Consultancy International (owned by British Petroleum); Baric Computing Services (jointly owned by ICL and Barclays Bank); and Comshare.

The turnovers for the latest available years, mainly 1978-79, of the top eight companies are all above £10m, with Datacil leading with £16,632,000. Comshare, tenth on the list, had a turnover of £8.5m.

The list of the "second 10", ranked by turnover, is also illuminating. Running from £7.3m to £3.9m, they are Hoskyns Group (owned by Martin Marietta, United States); Logica; University Computing (United States owned); Computer World Trade; RHM Management Services (Rank Hovis McDougall); SLA (France-owned); ADP Network Services (United States owned); Systems Programming Holdings; Software Sciences; and Générale de Service Informatique (UK) (French owned).

Kenneth Owen

## State loses TV income after switch in accounts

Revenue due to the Government from profits of television companies was not paid because the Independent Broadcasting Authority allowed changes in the method of calculating depreciation, the Commons Public Accounts Committee disclosed yesterday.

The companies were ATV and Scottish Television, Sir Brian Young, director-general of IBA, told the committee.

In 1977/78, the authority made a change of levy to the programme contractors. The authority obtained legal advice which confirmed that its action in these cases was not improper. However, neither the authority nor the Treasury was able to tell the committee how much this change cost the Government in terms of the levy.

The authority was required to determine the levy based on the profits of the companies, although the Home Office and Treasury were consulted on general principles. The committee said "with concern" that the authority did not consult the Home Office and the Treasury "on this important change in contractors' accounting policies".

This had a substantial effect on the levy payable to the Government. The committee added that the change "was not a considered decision of the authority itself".

It was accepted that the method of applying principles agreed between the IBA and the Government were "admittedly unusual arrangements for levying tax".

The committee welcomed an assurance from the Home Office that the Government proposed



Sir Brian Young

to institute a code of practice to clarify the way in which the levy should be administered.

Since substantial public revenue was involved, the committee was convinced that the Government should have the final right to lay down how the statutory requirements should be administered. It was recommended that provisions for this should be incorporated in new legislation now being prepared.

The committee said that, for levy purposes, the IBA excluded income from the sale of programmes overseas from a contractor's total income, but that it made no corresponding reduction in the total expenditure for an appropriate part of the initial production costs.

The committee approved the authority's agreement to review the accounting treatment to establish whether the rules on production costs should be revised.

## 'Outstanding' output by British coal industry

By Edward Townsend  
Britain's 300,000 workers in coal mining were congratulated yesterday for "a year of outstanding achievement" that has resulted in the first year-on-year increase in coal output for 17 years.

In the face of a disappointing start to 1980, the Coal Industry National Consultative Council took the unusual step of issuing a message to coal workers thanking them for their efforts and cooperation in the 12 months to March 29, which were described as an "impressive year of resurgence for coal".

The council, representing management and unions, said that provisional results for the 12 months showed that deep mine output rose by 3.8 million tonnes to 109 million tonnes, the first such increase since 1963.

The message of encouragement was signed by Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, Mr Joe Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Ken Moore, president of the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shiftworkers, and Mr Norman Schofield, president of the British Association of Colliery Management.

The industry's results, they said, showed that the NCB spent more than £1,000m over the year on equipment and contracts, almost all of it in Britain. Exports of coal and mining equipment and other overseas mining services earned more than £200m for the country.

During the year, the productivity of all mineworkers increased by 1.5 per cent and in the past three months by 4 per cent, bringing overall output for

each manshift up to 2.27 tonnes. Record-breaking productivity was achieved at the coal face with a breakthrough of more than nine tonnes a manshift since last November.

Fatal accidents in the mines fell from 72 in 1978-79 to a record low of 30 for the year. Serious reportable accidents also declined.

Recruitment improved by 6,000 and manpower wastage fell by only 1,700 despite 7,700 mineworkers choosing early retirement.

The council added: "Because of the worsening recession in the economy, the coal that has just started is bound to be a tough one. However, determined efforts will be made to find new outlets for coal. Also coal stocks are being built up to ensure immediate supplies are available for customers when business improves."

"This temporary slackening of markets for all industries must not be allowed to effect the improving trends in coal output and productivity—both essential to safeguard satisfactory results and the industry's future."

## More aid for biological technology

By Kenneth Owen  
Technology Editor

The National Enterprise Board and the National Research Development Corporation plan to increase their interest in investment in biotechnology—the application of biological organisms or processes to manufacturing and service industries.

Both organizations were enthusiastic about the prospects in this field yesterday on publication of the Government's report on biotechnology written by a joint working party of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, the Advisory Board for the Research Councils and the Royal Society.

The working party's report comments on the shortage of venture capital and other sources of financial support for innovation in the United Kingdom, and on the absence of new biotechnology-based companies.

There seems little prospect now, they say, of such companies being set up in Britain with wholly private finance.

The NEB, with the NRDC, should make a contribution and bring about a partnership of private and public finance.

The joint working party recommended that the NEB, in conjunction with NRDC, should investigate the possibility of establishing in the United Kingdom, and with some public funds, a research-oriented biotechnology company of the kind now taking shape elsewhere.

"A sum of £2m annually for five years should be sufficient to determine its value and establish the scale of further investment, whether from the private or public sector."

The NRDC confirmed that it would be putting more money into biotechnology projects. It already had a stake in most areas of the technology, and a number of further projects would soon be ready for backing.

The National Enterprise Board said that the recommendations of the report would be examined "with an appropriate urgency". The board would be considering practical ways in which to contribute alongside private-sector partners.

"Our own preliminary studies show that Britain has a strong research capability in molecular genetics, and new opportunities to transfer technology to industry will need to be grasped," the board said.

"The NEB will look closely at commercial propositions for the exploitation of various techniques now being developed in laboratories and research establishments."

It is understood that the NEB and the NRDC have already begun to examine a number of specific proposals.

### Design award

The range of seating for public places which was listed as a Design Council Award winner in our report yesterday is made by Amsted Systems, and was designed by Goodwin Wheeler Associates. The awards listed comprise the consumer and contract goods category of the awards scheme.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Housing is barrier to labour mobility

From Dr John R. Short

Sir, A government that is concerned with creating the best conditions for sustained economic growth will surely want to pay closer attention to the problems of labour mobility. It is universally recognized that such mobility is vital for economic growth; labour must be able to move easily to where there are jobs and industries which are expanding must be able to attract, quickly and easily, a suitable labour force.

A major problem is that the housing market in Britain operates against such mobility. The private rented sector with its easy access and few rules of entry is dwindling in size and the bias in council house allocation against newcomers to an area has been recognized. Both of these trends are well known but the problem of mobility into and within the owner-occupied sector is little discussed, yet this tenure category houses more than 50 per cent of all British households.

Broadly speaking, there are two barriers to movement for existing and would-be owner-

occupiers. First, there is the financial cost. With estate agent's fees, solicitors' fees and survey fees the moving cost can be substantial, often amounting to more than 15 per cent of the price of the house. Solicitors' fees are by far the largest element. Surely, a government concerned with breaking the monopoly of workers will want to achieve a reduction in such costs by breaking the solicitors' stranglehold over conveyancing.

Second, there are the emotional and delay costs. The English conveyancing system seems designed to maximise uncertainty, promote selfish behaviour and minimise speed, efficiency and costs. May I suggest that the Scots system be used as a model for changing the English system. What is at stake may be the possibility for sustained economic growth.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN R. SHORT  
Department of Geography,  
University of Reading,  
Whiteknights,  
Reading RG6 2AB,  
April 1.

### More facts on the Warwick coalfield

From Mr Kenneth Moses

Sir, Dr E. C. B. Corlett (March 25) and Mr H. V. T. Bland (March 27) raised some significant points arising from your report on the NCB's exploration in Warwickshire.

Dr Corlett ascribes to inefficiency the estimates, although the coalfield appears at present to contain about 2,850 million tonnes only 350 million tonnes may be recoverable. He perhaps misunderstands the basis upon which these figures are computed.

The gross figure includes all the coal identified by geologists. As with all coalfields, Warwickshire measures contain some coal so broken by vertical faulting as to preclude mining and some irretrievable because of geological splitting. That is the nature of all coalfields and the proportions extractable have always been far less than the total.

Dr Corlett suggests the board should investigate alternative methods of extraction, including gasification *in situ*. I can assure Dr Corlett that active research into such matters has been going on in the coal industry for many years.

Although underground gasification experiments around the world (including Britain) have all so far proved to be uneconomic and less than reliable in producing satisfactory gas flows, we are keeping the situation under review against the time when energy shortages and economic necessity may compel the use of such technologies. In the meantime our scientists are also examining other possible *in situ* techniques such as liquefaction and microbiological degradation.

Mr Bland appears to equate coal mining with serious disturbance of commerce, industry, culture and leisure, and

likes the case promulgated by the opponents of the Vale of Belvoir mining proposals. Our case at the public inquiry has been that precisely the opposite disturbance would be limited to, and to demonstrate that mining can be carried on side by side with agriculture, industry and leisure.

Mr Bland claims there is no case for extracting coal "as any piece when cheap overseas coal is available from Australia and the United States. Without entering into a debate about what the phrase "at any price" may mean, it surely must be obvious that the cheap supplies of foreign coal will be available only while the world recession lasts."

When world trade is restored and global oil and gas reserves go into sharp decline, "cheap" supplies of coal will no longer be available when all industrialized nations may be clamouring for energy in every form. By then, the availability of any indigenous coal may be viewed differently if the alternative to mining them were to be an energy famine.

The Warwickshire coalfield exploration is not yet complete, but the board has authorised the setting-up of a feasibility study which may be able to report in about 18 months time on whether the field contains sufficiently reserves of quantities of coal needed to proceed with a planning application immediately or whether exploration should be deferred to a later date, according to the needs of the energy economy.

Yours faithfully,  
KENNETH MOSES,  
Director of Planning and Major Projects,  
National Coal Board,  
Robert House,  
Grosvenor Place,  
London SW1X 7AE,  
March 31.

### What the banks should do about their profits

From Mr Julian Gough

Sir, The massive profits recently reported by the commercial banks have been greeted by the Government by some dithering over a windfall tax. The appropriate response should have been a condemnation of their unnecessarily high profit margins (high interest levels do not necessarily have to be associated with higher profit margins).

The ending of the cartel on bank interest rates more than a decade ago was supposed to bring in an era of competition, greater efficiency, and a narrowing of operating margins.

What has happened to competition? Has confusion re-emerged in a hidden form?

Instead of being embarrassed by the size of their profits, the banks should immediately increase their rates to depositors, or cut their charges to borrowers, or both. They can obviously afford to do so.

Yours faithfully,  
JULIAN GOUGH,  
Lecturer in Economics,  
The University of Wales  
Institute of Science and  
Technology,  
King Edward VII Avenue,  
Cardiff CF1 3NU,  
March 31.

### Speaking defence of EEC translator

From Mr D. A. Skitt

Sir, The mistranslation of a language regulation in the EEC treaty is a matter which should not be taken too seriously. It is a mistake which could have been avoided by a more careful reading of the text.

Quite apart from the drafting errors in the treaty, the fact that the work in international organisations (I can vouch for EEA, ESR, ELD and WEU) has to be translated by translators who, while having a fair degree of understanding of what is being translated, also need professional recognition to know what they are doing and to be able to translate with a minimum of errors.

It could hardly be a simple matter of translating documents. Every document is a work of art, and every document is a work of art. It is a mistake to think that a translator can simply translate a document word for word. A translator must understand the meaning of the document and be able to express it in the target language.

Space activities are circumscribed, so that imagine that in the EEC even more in the EEC for the person to a whole range of the world's work would be for omniscience.

Neither is the speed of translators, as Dr. Bland implied, the answer. The answer is to have a professional organization specialized, but may for translation only or year or so.

A vast host of translators would be needed who would be employed, an art whose cost would be high. Nor, as many would think, are the answer, since the libraries of these translators behind the glass of terminology.

This, apparently, is state of affairs, which ripe for transformation silicon chip, is of course, can generate errors, and it is a mistake to think that it can generate more.

Finally, and in fact, my Brussels conference, experienced translators ever claim infallibility imagine would very experienced practitioners professions.

Yours faithfully,  
D. A. SKITT,  
Translation Service,  
European Space Agency,  
8-10 rue Marie-Nikée,  
75738 Paris,  
March 26.

### Trusting the man he knew

From Mr D. J. Morgan

Sir, Agropros Professor letter today, co "proper" money, I Benjamin used to tell that in his lectures at the University of Oxford, he used to tell that in the Austrian Alps proper money was in place of sovereigns, keeper declined to at pressing the case, the cheque as he knew the sor but did not know of England.

Yours faithfully,  
D. J. MORGAN,  
Oak House,  
Dennis Lane,  
Stammore,  
Middlesex HA7 4JS.

## Bank Leumi Le-Israel B.M.

### Israel's first and largest banking group and one of the 100 largest in the world.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF THE BANK AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES AS AT DEC. 31, 1979 (Exchange rate of 3/12/79 = 1.353495 = \$1.00)

ASSETS	(IN 000's)	US\$
Cash and Due from Banks	IL 211,431,027	US\$ 5,981,161
Securities	30,988,894	87,077
Deposits with and Loans to the Government	111,123,381	3,143,563
Loans	113,479,907	3,210,227
Loans out of Deposits for the Granting of Loans	47,925,235	1,355,754
Other Accounts	2,412,612	68,250
Bank Premises and Equipment	2,027,855	57,368
Customer's Liabilities	26,692,945	755,115
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>IL 546,061,856</b>	<b>US\$ 15,447,513</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Deposits	IL 382,736,082	US\$ 10,827,199
Deposits for the Granting of Loans	48,584,798	1,374,413
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS</b>	<b>431,320,880</b>	<b>12,201,612</b>
Other Accounts	4,408,520	124,712
Debentures Issued by Subsidiaries	65,835,043	1,882,404
Liabilities on Account of Customers	26,692,945	755,115
Capital, Reserves and Earned Surplus	6,124,488	173,255
Convertible Capital Notes	829,012	23,452
Minority Interest of Outside Shareholders	6,953,500	198,707
Non-Convertible Capital Notes and Bonds	1,772,733	50,149
	9,078,235	256,814
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL FUNDS</b>	<b>IL 546,061,856</b>	<b>US\$ 15,447,513</b>

### CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1979

	(IN 000's)	US\$
Operating profit before taxes	IL 5,084,631	US\$ 144,121
Less provision for taxes	2,900,506	82,052
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>2,194,125</b>	<b>62,069</b>
Less minority shareholders' interest	495,650	14,021
<b>Net operating profit</b>	<b>1,698,475</b>	<b>48,048</b>
Other income, less provision for taxes and minority shareholders' interest	47,526	1,345
<b>TOTAL NET PROFIT</b>	<b>IL 1,746,001</b>	<b>US\$ 49,393</b>

The Bank Leumi group has 418 branches, subsidiaries and representative offices including 95 overseas (with 13 branches in N.Y. in process of acquisition).

HEAD OFFICE: 24-32 YEHUDA HALEVI ST., TEL-AVIV, ISRAEL, TEL. (03) 4511, TELEX 033856 LEUMI IL.

BANK LEUMI (U.K.) LTD.  
Subsidiaries of Bank Leumi

Head office and West-End branch: 47 Woodstock St. London W1A 2AF, Tel. (01) 6291205 Telex 383738 (3 other branches)

France: BANK LEUMI LE-ISRAEL (FRANCE) S.A., 30 boulevard des Capucines, 75009 Paris, Tel. (1) 246 7410, (1) 246 9272 (2 branches).

Switzerland: BANK LEUMI LE-ISRAEL (SWITZERLAND) S.A. Chemin de la Gare, 8022 Zurich, Tel. (01) 2016722/3.

Geneva branch: 80 Rue du Rhône, P.O. Box 55, 1211 Geneva 3, Tel. (022) 223555.

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TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK, 579 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017, Tel. (212) 852-5000 (26 branches)

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Toronto, Cayman Islands, Caracas, Bahamas, Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Miami, Caracas, Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo, Montevideo, Panama, Frankfurt a/M, Milan, Amsterdam, Johannesburg, Hong Kong, Mexico City, Melbourne — to be opened.

bank leumi בנק לאומי





BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# US investment challenge for GKN

If profits from GKN's United Kingdom operations are going to be "severely" hit by the steel strike, but of itself not as significant as the fact that the steel strike is now starting to bite and—of the steel strike—no-one knows.

ph the signs were emerging in the half of last year, they are not it in the 1979 profits of the group, £101.4 pre-tax are £24.1m up on the preceding year, and consider- more than anyone was expecting.

figures is struck after allowing for additional depreciation, to cover 2: of plant replacement at current but there will be no full analysis SAP 16 until the accounts come out, less, an indication that the pre-tax under current cost accounting would be a region of £68m must throw some on the wisdom of a policy of raising dividend—though a 10 per cent rise to (comfortably covered by historic (the exceptional items he excluded) to insignificance in comparison with a expenditure programme now run- some £100m a year, and an £80m last year in stocks alone.

group reckons that its borrowings—incurred in connection with the investments, which are due to stream in 1981-82—will peak this year. The inference is that interest could top last year's £35.9m; and reason to suppose that trading condi- permit the first quarter setback as up later in the year, the profits is at best flat.

ares, up 8p yesterday to 267p, yield 2.5; but there are more promising ves for the immediate future.

## strike

### metic

1979 profits were expected to be ad they are—down from £17.1m to before tax, although under CCA the at £8.5m. But a two-fifths reduction in dividend is disappointing and es ended unchanged at 7.5p, where is 10.1 per cent.

Ashlow, which lost £11.8m before and £6.23m in extraordinary closure 1 with about £25m to come from the sale which will cut back the £50m debt about two-thirds of share- funds). Bridon has no doubt of potential.

ne caveat is the steel strike. This t Bridon badly in the United King- must pose the question: how much has the British Steel dispute caused e engineering and steel companies seriously weakened by the engineer- ?

any companies the steel strike has ted stock reductions, so improving . Many have been able to source road and the impact on most com- profits should be small compared with neering strike.

n has suffered because its Temole- rod mill—half-owned and supplied as Steel—has been closed for most dispute, thus leaving the wire opera- where fixed costs are high, de- short of rod. Losses have mount- should be able to cope with this ably, though that is not a case for the shares at this stage.

## ing for efficiency

£5m increase in pretax profits to is tempered by warnings that the y face a difficult year or two and turns from the key domestic cable

division are still too low. Inflation and a steadily tightening market in BICC's base products mean that reducing costs and finding new products are vital.

Sales rose 6.1 per cent to £1,190m, and margins from 5.8 per cent to 6.5 per cent. Here, the return on capital is 23 per cent, though on a current cost basis it would be only 4.4 per cent, fractionally less than in 1978 on this basis.

Despite good prospects overseas, particularly in Canada and Australia where order books are fairly healthy, export and overseas sales by value fell last year, but operating profits at BICC International were



Sir Raymond Pennock, chairman of BICC.

a 22.5 per cent increase to £38.7m. The outlook overseas is for something better this year, in spite of the strength of sterling.

Strikes were a less important factor than might have been expected, causing £3.4m in lost profits, and the impact of the steel strike has probably been small.

But interest rates pushed up finance charges by £2.8m to £11.2m, although borrowings remained static; gearing has slipped a little to about 46 per cent.

The dividend has been increased by 10 per cent to 12.2p gross, covered 2.5 times by historic cost earnings. Here, the shares at 116p yield 10.1 per cent and sell on a p/e ratio of 5.4. BICC looks a good deal more capable of weathering the problems ahead than some in the sector, and the shares should be retained.

## Banks

### The list at last

Not too much should be read into yesterday's list of three-tier deposit-taking institutions. Most of the top names are among the list of fully recognized banks but there are several hundred applications, including some well known banks, still being considered because so much has depended on the timing of applications.

The list of those still being considered includes the main finance houses. Some of them are understandably worried if they end up in the second tier of deposit-taking institutions but this need not be a rebuff; the Bank of England may be more concerned about their actual function rather than any possible prestige to the full recognition as a bank. Several institutions registered under Section 123 under the old Department of Trade regulations are also awaiting a decision.

The Banking Act was prompted by the fringe banking crisis and the need to harmonize EEC regulations. Under the more stringent Bank of England's supervision another secondary banking crisis now looks unlikely but it is worth noting that depositors are now guaranteed up to £7,500 and this might be rigorously enforced in cases of individual failures.

Foreign banks fall fully within the net of the regulations. The banking supervising authorities in respective countries are now asked whether they will control their London subsidiaries or whether this should be done by the Bank of England. This is another correction to some of the problems that arose after the 1973/4 crisis.

## Economic notebook

### Gaps in the strategy

How much do we really know about our medium-term prospects as a result of last week's Budget? The answer has to be a great deal less than we could have done.

This is because of two significant omissions from the information which the Government has presented as being taken together these omissions leave a significant question mark over whether we have a credible route to the Government's goal.

The first omission is that of any serious discussion about medium-term prospects for output and inflation. This is dressed up as a virtue. We are asked to believe that it shows that the administration will not fall into the trap of its predecessors by basing plans on growth that are too optimistic. Instead of a growth forecast the plan is based on the deliberately cautious assumption of an average growth rate of 1 per cent for the years after 1980.

How can anyone claim that an assumption is deliberately cautious when it is not? Some judgment of what is likely to occur, against which to compare it? Growth of only 1 per cent a year does not sound much, but it is actually not as pessimistic an assumption as it seems.

The Treasury's forecast for the first-half of 1981 shows a further slight drop in output from the depressed levels of this year, just to end up with a zero growth in 1981, let alone a positive growth performance. There will have to be a very substantial turnaround.

So the 1 per cent growth is in fact 1.5 to 2 per cent growth in 1982 and 1983 once allowance is made for the bad performance next year. Now that, by past British performance, is not a cautious or a pessimistic assumption at all. It is rather better than our performance in 1978 and 1979, for example. Now the question is: on the assumption of this kind of growth?

One possible explanation of the Government's position is that assumptions do not need to be justified in the way that forecasts do and that that is what makes them preferable. But even this view does not deal with the matter, as Treasury witnesses at the House of Commons Select Committee on the Treasury discovered yesterday.

For in order to make everything else in a medium-term plan hang together, it is necessary to reconcile the growth assumption with the financial plan's promises.

It is difficult to do that. In order to do so, there has to be an explanation of just where the necessary growth comes from. Some of it may come from stock building, as industry recovers from the extreme rigours of the coming recession.

## Recovery

But a large part of any recovery in output, particularly a sustained recovery in output, has to come from final demand. What sources are there for this? It certainly cannot come from investment, which always lags behind other demand and is bound to be depressed.

Not, as far as we can tell, will it come from public spending. The qualification is important because what matters to the real economy is the scale of consumption of goods and services and the Government's public spending White Paper is remarkably silent on that issue after 1981, if only because the Government assures us that it does not know what will happen.

Let us assume, however, that the present Government's commitment to cut the total level of public spending means that its consumption of goods and services stays static throughout the years to 1983-84.

That narrows down the options to private consumption and an improvement in our net trading position. But here a problem appears. Increasing private consumption usually requires rising living standards, which in the context of a plan

suggesting no tax cuts in 1981 would suggest rising real wages. But improving trading performance requires greater competitiveness by British industry, which would suggest falling real wage costs. Since we know that the Treasury has assumed small growth in productivity as part of a package of assumptions, it is not surprising that the relative price of public sector services will fall, that means falling real wages.

So the only way in which the circle can be squared is for private consumption to rise at a time when wage costs and indeed real wages are falling.

This is the only basis on which it is possible to get an output performance of the kind assumed by the Treasury. It requires wage earners to reduce their savings rate because they feel more confident at a time when their real earnings are falling. It also requires a very sharp drop indeed in the inflation rate to restore our competitiveness in world and domestic markets, much sharper, in all probability, than that implied by the traditional historic relationships.

## Gambling

There are many obvious descriptions of these assumptions. "Deliberately cautious" is not one of them. The Government is gambling on its success in reducing inflation. That is just as big a risk as gambling on a government's ability to boost output.

What the Government is assuming is that it will get the inflation rate down because people believe that it will get the inflation rate down. It is a policy which depends greatly on expectations, but in use more fashionable versions of modern economic theory it is usual to put the word "rational" in front of expectations, that cannot be done in the model of behaviour which is evidently being used. The only explanation of the sharp drop in inflation implied in the latest government statements is that Treasury economists have been instructed to impose it on their forecasts.

The issue is important in itself, but it also has vital implications for the financial plan. For as the Treasury admits, assumptions about growth have a great impact on forecasts about revenue. If the assumptions are wrong, so are the forecasts.

That is one area where the Government's plan for the future looks decidedly shaky. The other is the path of public spending. We are assured that the lack of any information about just where £2,000m of cuts will be made in housing is not a contraction of opinion on government. The information has not been made public because the decisions have not been taken. This claim carries conviction.

Not is there any great credibility in the dramatic transformation of the financial position of nationalized industries. These are expected to have huge investment increases and great improvements in retained profits over the next four years.

It is a wonderful thing if you can do it, but there is something odd about the suggestion that nationalized industries, which are thought to be inefficient, can do this at a time when private industries (which are thought to be efficient) are in increasing deficit. The Government is likely to find a need for its saving paragraph from the White Paper in which it gives warning that the nationalized industry figures are particularly uncertain.

The truth is that wherever really large cuts occur the White Paper is uncertain. The decision to cut public spending has been made; the cuts have not. Working out where they fall will involve the Government in a great deal of soul-searching yet.

David Blake

# Saving Britain's textile industry from oblivion

The Multi-Fibre Arrangement governing international trade in textiles and clothing is about to be renegotiated. John Huxley reports

Scarcely a day goes by without a union leader or employer somewhere beseeching the Government to come to the rescue of the beleaguered textile and clothing industries.

Department of Trade ministers, at whom much of the pleading has been directed, have said privately that the monotony and frequency of the pleading is becoming tiresome, even counter-productive.

Yet at the risk of being accused of alarmism, industry leaders are preparing to raise their voices still further. They will do so out of a conviction that decisions taken over the coming months will effectively determine whether a sizable textile and clothing sector survives in the 1980s.

Discussions between Western European countries and their trading partners will dictate the shape of international trade in textiles after 1981, when the present General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) expires.

The present arrangement, which has been running since 1977, is the second one. It is the basis for a complex structure of import quotas covering items ranging from Philippines brassieres to Czechoslovakian travelling rugs.

Along with the accompanying bilateral deals, the MFA is designed to allow an orderly growth of imports from developing to developed countries, balancing the needs of poor and rich.

In its document *World Trade in Textiles after 1981* submitted to government ministers this week, the British Textile Confederation (BTC) makes a persuasive case for more effective and comprehensive constraints on imports into the European Community.

Unless big changes are made in the present framework some 450,000 jobs in the British textile industry are at risk, the confederation says. Among its demands are an MFA which runs for 10 years, and which relates import quotas to expansion in demand in domestic markets.

Some 31,000 workers have already been made redundant in the last six months of 1979, and several thousands are now on short-time working. The BTC is talking in terms of a further 80,000 jobs being lost over the next six months.

This tragic decline, which has occurred largely unremarked and piecemeal by comparison with redundancies in, say, the steel or motor industry, cannot be blamed entirely on low-cost

curbing American man-made fibre imports. It has made clear that it will not bend to pressure strong at present, to renegotiate existing quotas.

Most disconcerting for the industry, the Government has been reluctant to give any precise commitment on a new MFA. Until recently, its ministers have preferred to speak in guarded terms of the need for "orderly marketing arrangements". However, industry hopes were raised last week by news that Mr. Thatcher, in a letter to an MP, had accepted the need for Britain to "press for a continuation of effective restraints."

Mr. John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, is regarded as having only limited sympathy for the industry's present problems. He does not like import control and is anxious that an efficient industry should not be sheltered behind creeping protectionism. He has stressed the need for Britain to keep markets open and free, and spoken of the risk of provoking retaliation. He is also anxious to recognize the rights of consumers—domestic and industrial—who buy imports.

The BTC document is being circulated to ministers at the Employment and Industry department, and the Northern Ireland and Scottish offices, in the belief that they may temper Mr. Nott's philosophical attachment to free trade with some realistic appreciation of the threat to jobs and to regions.

The BTC believes that there is now a greater degree of unanimity among other European textile industries over the need to take a harder line on imports into the Community, which they feel has become a "soft touch" in recent years. Over one million jobs have been lost in Western Europe in textiles and clothing over the past decade.

A question mark still hangs over the amount of support to be expected from West Germany, however, which did not like Britain's action against American fibre products. They have made more rapid progress in ensuring that their own domestic industry is efficient and competitive.

Moreover, in the coming months of discussion, as the debate on the MFA moves from the national to the Community arena, two of the key men will be West German fibre traders: Herr Wilhelm Hafekamp, the Commissioner for External Relations, and Herr Moritz Krenkel, head of the Community's Textile Negotiating Division.

However, Mr. Regan said that the industry could "sweat out" its present difficulties successfully, if it was confident that it would still have a market in a couple of years' time.

Import penetration of the British market now amounts to 54 per cent by volume (about a third by value), of which about a half comes from developing or state-trading (mainly communist) countries.

At present rates of growth assuming flat domestic demand, low-cost exporters could capture 40 per cent by 1985. Given that exporters from the developed countries hold their share, home producers would be left with less than 40 per cent of the domestic market.

The confederation claims that the clothing and textile industries spent more than £2,000m in the 1970s on improving efficiency. It accepts that in both industries there are companies which must improve further if they are to compete in world markets but adds that the industry is not prepared to invest in the absence of a clear government commitment that a new, more effective MFA will be negotiated.

The Government has, after much urging, extracted from the EEC commission the right to impose quotas aimed at



## PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED PRELIMINARY PROFIT STATEMENT

### RESULTS

The following are the preliminary results of the Phoenix group of companies for the year ended 31st December 1979, subject to audit, together with the audited results for the year 1978.

	1979	1978
	£m	£m
<b>PREMIUM INCOME</b>		
General .....	355.9	337.8
Long-term .....	87.8	84.6
	443.7	422.2
<b>PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT</b>		
Investment income .....	45.3	38.5
Underwriting results:		
General .....	-14.1	-2.7
Long-term .....	3.1	2.2
	34.3	38.0
Less expenses not charged to other accounts .....	2.2	1.4
<b>PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION</b>	32.1	37.8
Less: Taxation .....	11.4	11.9
Minority interests .....	2.3	2.8
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	18.4	23.9
Less: Dividends .....	8.0	7.0
Provision for proposed share scheme .....	—	0.1
<b>Net profit retained</b>	10.4	16.8
Earnings per share, calculated on a weighted average basis .....	30.4p	38.0p

Notes: 1 US dollar transactions are converted at the rate of £2.22 for the year 1978 (1978 £2.04). 2 The long-term premium income for 1978 included £34.1 million in respect of a period of 24 months for Property Growth Assurance Company Ltd and its subsidiary, now consolidated on an annual basis. 3 A provision for an allocation under the staff share scheme, approved at the 1979 annual general meeting, is included for 1979 on a gross basis under expenses not charged to other accounts.

The strength of sterling in 1979, compared with the currencies of the countries in which the group transacts the major part of its overseas business had a significant impact on the above results. After adjustment for currency fluctuations, general premium income grew by 12% (5% unadjusted) whilst investment income advanced strongly by 24% (15% unadjusted).

### UNDERWRITING

The geographical distribution of the general business is as follows:

	Premiums written	Underwriting balance
	1979	1978
	£m	£m
<b>United Kingdom and Ireland:</b>		
Home fire and accident ..	122.5	107.0
Reinsurance subsidiaries ..	17.1	16.9
Marine — UK companies ..	20.5	24.5
Aviation — UK companies ..	3.4	3.7
	163.5	152.1
Europe .....	70.3	61.3
United States .....	63.5	68.7
Canada .....	19.0	18.1
Elsewhere overseas .....	39.5	39.4
	262.3	239.6
	-14.1	-2.7

In the United Kingdom an exceptional incidence of large fire and consequential loss claims, coupled with heavy experience in the motor account due to weather conditions, the impact of VAT on repair costs and an increasing rate of inflation, contributed to an underwriting loss for the final quarter of £4.8 million.

The United States operating ratio moved marginally from 101.1 at the end of September 1979 to 101.6 for the full year (94.8 for the year 1978). In Europe the previously profitable account in Denmark suffered a reverse in 1979 due to weather losses at the beginning of the year and a deterioration in motor results, but all other territories showed an improving trend. Trading conditions remained difficult in Canada and Australia, but business in most other overseas countries was profitable.

The strong growth in new business production in recent years is now reflected in increased profits from the long term account. The impetus for growth was well maintained with new sums assured exceeding £2,000 million for the first time in 1978 (£1,700 million in 1978).

### DIVIDEND

Taking into account the strong growth in Investment Income, the increased transfer from the long term account and the special factors affecting the company's business in 1979, the directors recommend a final dividend of 7.5p (1978 6.445p) per share to be paid to members on the register at the close of business on 30th May 1980. With the interim dividend of 5.6p already paid this represents a 15% increase over the dividends declared for 1978. The date of payment of the final dividend will be 1st July 1980 and the cost £4.5 million (1978 £3.9 million).

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, 28th May 1980 at 12 noon. The Report to shareholders for the year 1979 will be issued on 2nd May.

## Business Diary: Abta's Elms • Farewell to Pipkin

association of British Agents (Abta) seemed yesterday over whether to pick one of them—a director—to become its head for the next three years.

The end, it seemed, of the "Tottenham Agency and undoubtedly agent. And quite right, business Diary predicted this year that he would top the list.

were those on Abta's council rooting for a director to take the chair by Margaret Hook, who sat in both agents' and not camps, but Elms is and popular Abta hand, been on the national for four years and of the Retail Agents' for three.

Ferrazack now becomes one of the agents' council new chairman of the Operators' Council is Perez, of Intasun, who is well in the running presidency.

high Elms believes that as done much to improve age of the travel trade. I think that there is of work to do to ensure a good service from a High Street agents and operators. scheme started during all council stint was the of some 24,000 staff in 90 retail agents through- country. In 12 months, 1,000 staff have gone b the training pro- and Elms thinks that 18 months time.



Sherry Beadle: Hammersmith cowgirl.

Despite appearances, Sherry Beadle is not an extra from Dallas but a former Miss Lubbock, Texas, leading a new import drive to these shores. Miss Beadle and a host of other Westerners are instilling a touch of Texas into the unlikely surroundings of the Cunard Hotel, Hammersmith.

Their trade mission hopes to persuade the British that cowboy paraphernalia should be come an essential part of our way of life. Miss Beadle's particular contribution consists of atmospheric paintings of horses. With the success of Dallas, who knows?

This column was determined not to join in the hand-to-hand parlour game which appears to be swamping other sections of the paper, but the splendidly named Broughton Pipkin has broken down my defences.

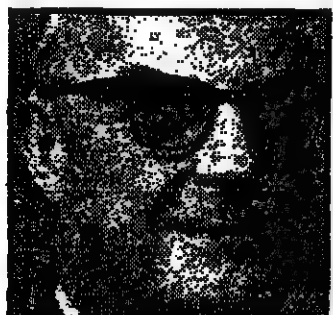
Pipkin, 66, has retired this week after three years as chairman of BICC, the cables and construction group. His father, Charles, retired as BICC's deputy chairman in 1947 after 39 years with the group, beating his son's spell of service by 15 years. Between the two Pipkins there is an aggregate 103 years with BICC.

But back to the parlour game which, for newcomers, basically consists of working out one's own connections with past figures through relatives and acquaintances. One of Charles Pipkin's close friends was Doctor Sebastian De Ferranti, founder of today's firm of Ferranti and a leading pioneer in the field of electrical engineering who died in 1930.

De Ferranti's grandfather was a gaurist in the court of King Leopold I of Belgium who was very near Prince Consort.

Holiday Inns, arguably the world's most voracious hotel group, has set its sights on a scheme that many would think impossible—to build a new hotel in central London.

The group's French-born president Eric Bernard admits that it does not have an easy task on its hands but he displays a Gallic confidence that the group will overcome the dire shortage of suitable property sites. Bernard, a one-time Grand



Broughton Pipkin.

of Great Britain (his wife Princess Charlotte died, leaving Victoria next in succession) and the vodka-swinging terms with at least two Romanovs. My amateur genealogy therefore provides Pipkin with instant reference to Peter the Great and the British Royal Family, should he wish to take up this little game.

BICC announced improved results yesterday which makes the red herring which Pipkin favours each day even more appropriate.

Metropolitan high-flyer and serving director of the Ulster Transport Authority, now based in Memphis, has set the chain the task of building a further 80,000 rooms throughout the world during the next five years, more than in the whole of the Hilton chain.

It should come as some comfort to British builders that a proportion of those are expected to come from Holiday Inns in Aberdeen, Portsmouth, Glasgow, Manchester, Cardiff, Croydon and York.

With little more than a month to go before applications for commercial television franchises must be submitted, it is becoming clear that there will be a further of competitors for the new breakfast slot. Even the Independent Broadcasting Authority is warning to the idea, although when it first mooted the channel last November the authority made it plain that breakfast television was a possibility rather than a certainty.

The enthusiasm with which the idea is being greeted may have put paid to that attitude. Besides the original breakfast consortium involving Jonathan Dimbleby and Lord Lever, both Lord Grade's ACC, holding company of ATV, and Independent Television News intend to have their bids in by May 9 when the deadline for applications closes.

The burning question facing all the would-be breakfast operators at present is who to approach to lead the visual assault over the cornflakes if they win?

It could be that you have to be daft to watch West Bromwich Albion play football each week. The club's management certainly seems to think so. It is now advertising a savings scheme whereby supporters can buy vouchers. These can later be used to defray the cost of season tickets. An advertisement in last week's match programme says: "The vouchers will have a value of £1 and £5 and afford you the opportunity to save without incurring any interest whatsoever."

David Hewson



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Gilts firmer despite prime rate rise

Turnover returned to a low level in the market yesterday, influenced mostly by the coming Easter holiday.

However, the general trend was firm with gilts continuing their upward march despite another increase in United States prime rates announced after hours. Equities too attracted a lot of inquiry with several institutions remaining on the lookout for cheap bargains in order to reduce the latest cash mountain.

Yesterday was also the last day for "bed and breakfast" deals and brokers were instantly greeted with a flurry of activity when business began.

The return to work by the steel workers was discounted by most market men with the majority of attention focussed on trading statements and company news. Oils came in for a flurry of activity after hours, ignited by Marathon's announcement of a satisfactory flow rate from its 36/3 block in the North Sea in which the real interest rate, Siebens has a sizeable stake, maintained with gilts where business fluctuated throughout the day.

Nevertheless, the news in after hours that the Chemical

Bank had raised its prime rate to 20 per cent finally put the damper on recent active buying. In longer the new "tap" Treasury 14 per cent 1996, which was exhausted on Tuesday, closed unchanged at 50 1/2, while rises elsewhere were restricted to between 1/2 and 1/4. In shorts, turnover was again

The Easter holidays are likely to signal the move for control of timber group Mallinson-Denny after weeks of speculation. A heavy buyer of the shares is reported to have relieved jobbers of all available stock on Tuesday with dealers in the options market reporting further active inquiries in call options. The shares remained firm at 63p yesterday.

reported as low with prices moving in a narrow range despite the general shortage of stock. But it was the increase in prime rates that left falls of around 1/2, 1/4 at the close. Activity in equities almost ground to a halt in after hours and despite the renewed activity in the 27 index closed 0.3 down at 432.1 after touching a high for the day of 433.3 at 3 p.m. Leading industrials were

largely neglected, closing mostly mixed. ICI closed unchanged at 37 1/2. Fisons improved 2p to 269p and Rascal rose 4p to 218p after favourable press comment. But Unilever fell 1p to 403p and Pilkington encountered nervous selling and slid 5p to 208p. Selling was also reported in Beechams, 3p lower at 117p, with reports of "split" selling (whereby an investor sells his stake through several brokers in one go) by one of the institutions.

Dealers suggested this might be as a result of nervousness ahead of Glaxo's figures, due out soon.

The announcement in the late afternoon from Marathon provided a flurry of speculation among oils. The institutions again proved eager buyers and coupled with the absence of selling again from the United States prices moved sharply higher.

Among the majors BP rose 4p to 362p, Ultramar 8p to 530p and Centrica 4p to 286p. Only Shell, 2p lower at 340p, resisted the trend. Siebens, with a large stake in the Marathon 16/3 block find, leapt 104p to 657p although jobbers felt the shares

were unlikely to recoup the earlier gains achieved before rumours of a dry well saw them tumble from 915p. Burmah was another strong market, rising 14p to 205p.

Insurance shares gave up some of their earlier gains as a result of the renewed strength in the dollar after the disappointing figures from Willis Faber. The shares

Mr Harry Goodman's ambition to bring his holiday tour company, Intasun, to the market is getting closer. Price Waterhouse is busy working on an audit of the figures ready for the prospectus offering the shares to the public.

finished 15p down at 233p taking with them Alexander Rowden, which fell 4p to 104p, and CE Heath, down 5p to 208p. Figures from Sun Alliance, down 3p to 542p, and Phoenix, 8p off at 208p, also had a big bearing Commercial Union, which fell 4p to 139p.

Banks gave up earlier gains achieved in a thin market. Barclays fell 7p to 403p, Nat West 3p to 315p and Midland 2p to 316p. Lloyds was firmer, but closed along with the rest 2p lower at 285p.

Speculative interest also helped Catlins to improve 12p to 160p. United Scientific 2p to 466p, Mess Bros 4p to 252p and Furness Withy 6p to 373p. But profit-taking wiped 25p from Guthrie at 900p and 5p from St Piran at 65p.

Engineering came in for a mixed day after the return to work by the steelworkers and a mixed batch of companies reporting. Full-year figures from Yarrow knocked 20p from the shares at 367p while GKN put on 8p to 367p and BICC 3p to 116p. There were gains of 1p to 2p for Tube at 254p, Vickers at 114p and Metal Box at 254p.

In properties the interim statement from Peachey pushed the shares 5p better at 132p while full-year figures left Berkeley Hambro 5p higher at 199p.

Equity turnover on April 1 was £137.65m (28.85p bar-gains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Shell, GKN, Rascal, BAT Industries, Bower, Beecham, Unilever, BP, Burmah, BSG International, Marks & Spencer and Turner & Newall.

## Willis Faber falls to £17m

By Richard Allen  
Insurance Correspondent  
A strong pound and deteriorating premium rates in world insurance markets have led to disappointing results from Lloyd's broker Willis Faber.

Pretax profits are down by almost £2m, or more than 10 per cent, to £17.16m for the year ended December 31. The market had been hoping that Willis might have bucked the downward trend shown by other brokers, and the shares fell back 11p to 236p on the announcement.

Sentiment was not helped by the fact that the dividend increase was held at under 10 per cent to 10.7p, taking the year's total up to 15.7p gross.

Willis, which gets 33 per cent of its commissions on overseas business, blamed sterling's strength for clipping the profits total by as much as £2.75m. But it also cited softening premium rates, particularly in the United States.

At the same time increasing insurance claims have left the group funding greater losses while waiting for the underwriters to pay up.

Profits from the 22 per cent Morgan Grenfell stake rose from £1.8m to £2.1m to contribute to an associate's total of £3.5m.

Overall expenses growth was contained to 16 per cent at £34m but still outstripped income growth of 6 per cent to £47m, for 12 per cent allowing for the effect of sterling's strength.

Mr Ronnie Taylor, the chairman, says that premium rates are likely to remain under pressure, but that sterling appreciation is unlikely to continue indefinitely.

Referring to the proposed takeover of rival C. T. Bowring by Marsh & McLennan, Mr Taylor said yesterday that he thought it could lead to similar moves by other American groups but that Willis Faber was the "least vulnerable" among London firms.

Willis Faber has recently been strengthening informal links with US ally Johnson & Higgins through the formation of a joint management group for the New York Insurance Exchange and the joint purchase of a surplus lines business in Chicago.

## Phoenix and Sun Alliance hit by increasing claims

By Our Insurance Correspondent  
Stormy weather and increasing fire and motor claims caused profits to slump at both Sun Alliance and Phoenix Assurance last year.

At Phoenix, where the underwriting deficit spiralled from £2.7m to £14.1m, profits fell 15 per cent from £37.6m to £31.1m. At Sun Alliance pretax profits plunged more than £10m, or 17 per cent, to £49.2m after an underwriting loss of £26.4m against the previous year's £4.9m.

The setback, however, has not stopped either group from significantly boosting dividends. Sun Alliance is paying a final of 20.7p gross, raising the year's total by almost a quarter, to 40p gross. Phoenix, with a final of 10.7p, has lifted the total by

15 per cent to 19p gross. In both cases the payments are covered about 21 times by stated earnings.

In Sun Alliance's case a large part of the underwriting deficit was because of exceptional weather claims amounting to £12m, while there were increased losses on the accident and motor accounts and fire business showed a marked deterioration.

The UK and Ireland deficit rose from £4.6m to £16m while losses in Europe climbed from £3.4m to £5.5m. Results also deteriorated in most other major overseas territories. Cushioning the blow, investment income rose 17 1/2 per cent to £70.3m and long-term insurance profits climbed from £4m to £4.9m. Overall premium income rose from £641m to £682m.

At Phoenix large fire and soaring motor claims to weather conditions, impact of VAT on repairs are blamed for a UK writing deficit of £4.8m final quarter. As a result, the UK deficit rose from £3.2m to £4.8m.

Meanwhile US underwriting, from a previous of £2.4m to a deficit of £1.4m, was also fractionally reduced at £1.3m. The group says Europe's reversal of losses, due mainly to weather losses, was the problem and all other areas showed an improvement.

The group's investment income increased by 15 per cent to £43.3m.

## Royal Worcester firmly on growth tack

By Our Financial Staff  
Royal Worcester, the china-electronics group, has finally broken out of its disconcerting stop-go profits pattern of the last few years.

Up 34 per cent at £3.6m, profits advanced strongly for the second year in succession in the 12 months to December 29.

Meanwhile, a lower tax charge has helped boost attributable earnings by more than 70 per cent to 48.1p a share. Shareholders are rewarded with a final of 8.14p gross which lifts the total payment by a fifth to 12.29p gross.

Royal has wrested the profits jump from a mere 14 per cent turnover increase, thanks mainly to strong performances

by both the electronic components division and the traditional fine china operation. Profits from Royal Worcester Spode advanced 24 per cent to £2.5m on an 8 per cent turnover increase to £25.5m.

In electrocomponents, the profit increase was 36 per cent to £1.6m on the back of a 24 per cent turnover increase to £15.9m. The group's Welwyn Electric subsidiary is one of Europe's biggest producers of resistors and is now seeing increasing benefits from growth in the micro-technology industry.

Royal Worcester has stated that its aim is, eventually to create a 50-50 profits split between china and electronics.

## Merchant banks raise dividends

Financial Staff  
Two major merchant banks, Kleinwort Benson and Midland Bank, yesterday reported sharply improved results for the year.

Kleinwort Benson raised its dividend by 34 per cent to 4.9p a share. After a year of dividends the profit for the year is £8.4m.

To bring capital and into line with the size of the business the board has agreed to bring £10m from deferred reserves to the profit and loss account.

While Kleinwort Benson did not reveal the size of its improvement, it did say that its bullion dealing business had been a major contributor to the improvement.

Samuel Montagu has a net profit after tax of £2.2m, or 1.87p a share. The total dividend for the year is £1.87p, or 1.87p a share.

## Peachey dividend increased

Shareholders of Peachey Property, former empire of the late Sir Eric Miller, will get their biggest interim payout for nearly five years on profits virtually doubled to £1.7m. The dividend is 2.14p.

For the six months to Christmas Day, the group started its strategic move away from private homes into industrial and office property, committing £6m of the £12m they received from the sale of former headquarters, Park West, near Marble Arch.

Managing director Mr John Brown, who joined the group just over two years ago, said: "We have invested £2.2m in the period covering the figures and plan to invest a further £4m in industrial estates, offices and studios."

## Briefly

Although turnover of Crosby House Group eased from £14.17m to £10.01m in 1979, the pretax loss, after tax, fell from £234,000 to £55,000. This was after exceptional losses rising from £138,000. The previous year there was an extraordinary debit at £199,000.

The loss per share before extraordinary items was 2.3p against 22.05p. There is again no dividend.

Provided current levels of profitability are maintained, the board proposes to recommend paying the preference dividend, together with the arrears, in June, 1980.

Delight Industries: Turnover for half year to October 31, £2,549m (£2,559m). Profit before tax, £195,300 (£287,000). Interim is 2.55p gross. Reduction in profits resulted from transport and engineering strikes. Current industrial action is causing problems which will affect market for second half of year.

Mid-Southern Water: Offer for sale by tender of £50 million convertible preference stock 1985 attracted applications for £9,727m of stock. Lowest price to receive a partial allotment was £38.01. Average price obtained £38.452. Dealings will commence on April 3.

Charterhall: Total income for six months to Dec 31, £492,000 (£224,000). Group profit £19,500 (£10,500). Group's two financial groups are trading satisfactorily and continue to provide cash flow to cover the group's operational expenses.

Curzon Co (Edg): Turnover for 1979 £28.41m (£32,022m), profit £1,444m (£1,029m) after tax of £165,600 (£196,932). Eps 17.19p (£12.34p). Surplus on properties revaluation £2.8m. Scrip issue one-for-one proposed. Gross dividend, 6.75p (£5.25p).  
Titagarh Jute factory: Again no dividend for year to June 30. Turnover in India was £18.66m (£24.5m) and in United Kingdom £2.82m (£3.18m). Net loss on Indian operations £51,000 (£13,37m) and profit on United Kingdom operations £34,000 (£113,000). Loss per share 56.6p (£89.9p) before extraordinary items.

## OFFICIAL RESERVES

The following are the figures for the United Kingdom's official reserves issued by the Treasury.

End of period	£m	£m	Change in month
1979			
March	17,454	6,446	837
April	21,487	10,378	480
May	22,070	10,163	335
June	23,499	10,400	1,429
July	23,499	10,337	124
Aug	22,751	10,332	564
Sept	22,498	10,812	283
Oct	22,417	10,199	81
Nov	22,710	10,211	302
Dec	23,706	10,486	887
1980			
Jan	23,835	10,523	229
Feb	23,835	12,460	3,628
March	23,835	12,460	3,628

Reserves revised each end-March.

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Arcusson (I)	7,246.6	0,500.43	3.81(3.2)	0.32(0.45)	1/8	—
Beaumont (F)	0,760.63	0,140.07	5.5(5.7)	3.0(—)	14/5	3,010.99
Berkley Hambro (I)	6,616.9	3,512.2	19.0(19.1)	3.0(1.9)	1/7	8.37(7.79)
BICC (F)	11,901.121	63.6(56.6)	21.38(16.8)	5.82(5.29)	2/7	5.0(4.9)
Black & Edgington (F)	66,212.59	1.6(2.9)	5.4(19.9)	2.8(2.7)	2/7	8.6(7.4)
Eddie Higgs (F)	15,211.59	1.4(1.1)	19.3(14.2)	6.2(5.2)	2/7	5.0(4.9)
Burns Anderson (I)	15,011.31	0.36(0.29)	—	0.40(0.25)	19/5	—
Bridon (F)	296,012.89	3,391.7	5.75(17.3)	2.7(4.38)	22/5	5.0(6.36)
Brookes Watson (F)	110.4(88.8)	2.4(2.0)	8.4(17.62)	2.25(—)	30/5	3.0(2.6)
Curzon Hides (F)	38,412.01	0.18(0.19)	17.19(12.34)	2.9(2.42)	—	4.6(3.36)
Crosby House (F)	10,014.11	0.05(0.23)	2.3(12.03)	Nil(Nil)	—	Nil(Nil)
Delight Indus (I)	2,542.2	0.1(0.22)	—	2.0(—)	1/6	—
F. J. C. Lilley (F)	80,016.54	3,114.3	16.9(12.9)	2.3(1.67)	2/6	—
F&N Int (F)	12,531.06	0.82(0.53)	8.75(4.91)	1.2(1.31)	20/5	2.42(1.95)
GKN (F)	1,291.1754.7	109.4(67.3)	32.8(15.17)	13.55(11.79)	24/5	19.39(17.38)
Hanger Invest (F)	82.4(48.8)	2.7(12.34)	23.6(23.1)	1.75(0.72)	—	3.0(0.72)
Harris Queensway (F)	79.9(32.8)	8.8(5.4)	17.82(12.26)	4.0(2.25)	30/5	6.0(—)
Hilton Footwear (F)	13.1(11.3)	1.56(1.39)	20.74(14.5)	3.4(—)	2/6	4.7(3.6)
I. & J. Ryman (F)	22.8(14.7)	1.8(1.5)	4.37(3.53)	0.83(0.58)	1/5	—
Jove Invest Trst (F)	—	1.16(1.02)	4.27(3.8)	2.25(—)	30/5	4.0(3.6)
Kleinwort Benson (F)	—	12.18(9.15)	22.4(16.6)	9.2(6.37)	—	15.8(—)
Langanvale Est (I)	0.02(0.02)	0.001(0.009)	—	—	—	—
Peachey Prop (I)	2.7(2.0)	1.7(0.8)	1.3(1.0)	1.3(1.0)	20/5	3.0(—)
Phoenix Assur (F)	454.0(432.0)	32.1(37.6)	20.4(38.0)	7.4(6.45)	1/7	13.3(11.56)
Provincial Ins (F)	—	4.9(3.7)	36.2(18.8)	9.13(—)	1/7	22.8(21.1)
Royal Worcester (F)	25.4(23.3)	3.6(2.6)	41.9(28.6)	5.7(4.7)	8/5	8.6(7.1)
Solicitors Law (F)	23.9(22.7)	0.18(0.19)	4.38(6.99)	1.4(—)	—	1.4(—)
Sun Alliance (F)	683.0(641.0)	49.2(59.5)	62.9(67.1)	14.5(11.5)	—	28.0(22.3)
Transatlantic Mkt (F)	—	0.83(0.16)	—	62.0(12.0)	25/4	—
Willis Faber (F)	47.0(44.0)	17.16(19.14)	20.3(21.6)	7.5(6.8)	4/6	11.0(10.05)
W'son Werburtn (F)	33.4(18.3)	0.87(1.03)	15.77(18.16)	4.35(5.95)	16/6	6.29(5.71)
Yarrow Co (I)	9.4(4.7)	0.2(0.7)	6.1(10.1)	2.5(1.8)	16/6	6.5(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on peace per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. \*—adjusted for scrip. †—loss. ‡—after tax. ||—after providing additional depreciation for inflation.

## BICC 79

## Highlights from the Annual Report

- Operating profit increased by 18% with significant improvements in cable manufacturing in U.K. and strong performances in Australia and Canada.
- Earnings per ordinary share up 27% including a special tax credit.
- Dividends increased by 10% net.
- Outlook 1980 likely to be a difficult year but further progress expected.

GROUP RESULTS for the year ended 31 December			
	1979	1978	
	£m	£m	
Sales -			
United Kingdom	544.6	445.8	
Exports	189.8	196.3	
Overseas	455.5	479.3	
	1,189.9	1,121.2	
Operating profit	76.8	65.0	
Finance charges	11.2	8.4	
Profit before taxation	65.6	56.6	
Taxation	23.8	24.1	
Profit after taxation	41.8	32.5	
Minority interests and preference dividends	9.8	7.5	
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	32.0	25.0	
Earnings per ordinary share	21.38p	16.80p	
Dividends per ordinary share - net	8.57p	7.79p	

Taxation in 1979 has been reduced by a special taxation credit of £4.6m (3.07p per share) arising from the release of the deferred taxation provision in respect of U.K. stock relief for 1973 and 1974.

The Final Ordinary Dividend of 5.82p net per share (1978: 5.29p net per share) will be paid to ordinary shareholders registered in the books of the Company on 23 May 1980. Warrants will be posted on 27 June 1980, payable 1 July 1980.

The complete Press Release is available from the Secretary, BICC Limited, P.O. Box No. 5, 21 Bloomsbury Street, WC1B 3ON.

The 1979 Annual Report will be posted to share and loan stock holders on 1 May 1980. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 29 May 1980.

BICC



## SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

The audited results for 1979 are as follows:—

	1979	1978
	£m	£m
Premium Income	546.1	530.7
General Business	136.5	120.7
Long-term Business	409.6	409.6
	682.6	641.4
Underwriting Result—General Business	(26.4)	(4.9)
Long-term Insurance Profits	96.3	90.4
Investment Income	70.3	59.8
Other Income	0.4	0.6
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	49.2	59.5
Taxation	17.8	26.1
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	31.4	33.4
Minority Interests	0.4	0.3
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS	31.0	33.1
DIVIDENDS	13.8	11.2
PROFIT RETAINED	17.2	21.9
EARNINGS PER SHARE	62.9p	67.1p

## GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS RESULTS

	1979	Underwriting Result	1978	Underwriting Result
	Premium Income	£m	Premium Income	£m
United Kingdom & Ireland*	318.0	(16.0)	281.2	(4.6)
Europe	86.9	(5.5)	90.4	(3.4)
U.S.A.	62.0	0.6	63.9	2.5
Canada	15.9	(1.0)	16.1	0.3
Australia	22.5	(0.1)	28.0	1.3
Other Overseas	40.8	(4.4)	41.1	(1.0)
	<u>546.1</u>	<u>(26.4)</u>	<u>520.7</u>	<u>(4.9)</u>











MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

**Wheat**—The London daily price of wheat was 100.00, down from 100.50 on Wednesday. The price of soft wheat was 100.00, down from 100.50. The price of hard wheat was 100.00, down from 100.50.

**Corn**—The London daily price of corn was 100.00, down from 100.50 on Wednesday. The price of soft corn was 100.00, down from 100.50. The price of hard corn was 100.00, down from 100.50.

**Soybeans**—The London daily price of soybeans was 100.00, down from 100.50 on Wednesday. The price of soft soybeans was 100.00, down from 100.50. The price of hard soybeans was 100.00, down from 100.50.

**Oilseeds**—The London daily price of oilseeds was 100.00, down from 100.50 on Wednesday. The price of soft oilseeds was 100.00, down from 100.50. The price of hard oilseeds was 100.00, down from 100.50.

**Grains**—The London daily price of grains was 100.00, down from 100.50 on Wednesday. The price of soft grains was 100.00, down from 100.50. The price of hard grains was 100.00, down from 100.50.

Foreign exchange report

The pound gave up a small amount of its recent gains against the dollar, but some of the positions took place in the long holiday week. The effective exchange rate against the dollar was 1.55, down from 1.56 on Wednesday. The pound was down from 1.56 to 1.55 against the dollar.

Gold Spot and Forward

The gold price was 1,000.00, down from 1,005.00 on Wednesday. The price of gold was 1,000.00, down from 1,005.00. The price of gold was 1,000.00, down from 1,005.00.

Dollar Spot Rates

The dollar spot rate was 1.55, down from 1.56 on Wednesday. The price of the dollar was 1.55, down from 1.56. The price of the dollar was 1.55, down from 1.56.

European Currency Rates

The European currency rates were 1.55, down from 1.56 on Wednesday. The price of the European currency was 1.55, down from 1.56. The price of the European currency was 1.55, down from 1.56.

Euro-Dollar Deposits

The Euro-dollar deposits were 1.55, down from 1.56 on Wednesday. The price of the Euro-dollar deposits was 1.55, down from 1.56. The price of the Euro-dollar deposits was 1.55, down from 1.56.

Money Market Rates

The money market rates were 1.55, down from 1.56 on Wednesday. The price of the money market rates was 1.55, down from 1.56. The price of the money market rates was 1.55, down from 1.56.

Options

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Issues

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Law Report April 2 1980

Granada ordered to disclose 'source' of documents

British Steel Corporation v Granada Television Ltd. Before Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor granted an application by British Steel for an order requiring Granada Television to disclose the source of documents which it had obtained from a confidential source.

The application arose out of a World in Action programme, transmitted by Granada on February 4, 1979, about the steel industry.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the main thrust of the programme seemed to be an attack on the steel industry.

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Granada Television Ltd. Before Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor.

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Granada Television Ltd. Before Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor granted an application by British Steel for an order requiring Granada Television to disclose the source of documents which it had obtained from a confidential source.

The application arose out of a World in Action programme, transmitted by Granada on February 4, 1979, about the steel industry.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the main thrust of the programme seemed to be an attack on the steel industry.

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Here are some examples of 14 night holidays which are available. To find out more, see your local travel agent or ring your local Thomson office.

Holiday No.	Departure Airport	Dates	No. of bedrooms	Party Size	Resorts	Price*
<b>APARTMENTS</b>						
Y7274	Gatwick	5 June	1	2-3	Lanzarote	£173
Y7264	Gatwick	4, 11 June	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£168
Y7382	Gatwick	1, 15 May	1	2-3	Gran Canaria	£150
Y7382	Gatwick	12 June	1	2-3	Gran Canaria	£168
Y7252	Luton	6, 13 May	2	3-5	Costa Brava	£99
Y7265	Luton	18, 25 June	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£182
Y7275	Luton	19, 26 June	1	2-4	Costa Blanca	£152
Y7260	Bristol	5, 12 June	1	2-4	Costa Blanca	£140
Y7267	Cardiff	25 June	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£186
Y7266	Birmingham	28 May	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£173
Y7381	Birmingham	17, 24 June	2	3-5	Costa Brava	£140
Y7271	East Midlands	1, 8 June	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£178
Y7383	Manchester	29 May	1	2-3	Gran Canaria	£177
Y7383	Manchester	26 June	1	2-3	Gran Canaria	£191
Y7268	Manchester	18, 25 June	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£191
Y7258	Edinburgh	2, 9, 16 May	1	2-4	Costa Blanca	£136
Y7269	Glasgow	7, 14 May	Studio/1	2-3	Tenerife	£166
Y7259	Glasgow	23 May	1	2-4	Costa Blanca	£152
<b>VILLAS</b>						
Y7278	Cardiff	28 June	4	4-8	Ibiza	£192
Y7279	Birmingham	14, 21 June	4	4-8	Ibiza	£190

\*Prices shown are per person for largest party size. All holidays subject to availability. ATOL 512.

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## PERSONAL CHOICE



*as Alexander the Great in Robert Rossen's epic production, screened today at 4.20 on BBC 2*

guests who won't go home, who are the subjects of a current affairs special (BBC 2, 7.20) are more like alienated friends than family. They are the 15 million workers from the poor areas of Southern Europe and East who have flooded into Western Europe. Unlike them, they rarely become nationals of the host countries, have no rights. There are five million of them in Italy, in Belgium, they exceed the total population of Switzerland in one in four workers is a foreign migrant, social, political and economic repercussions of the influx workers—collecting into what the programme describes as a time bomb—that is examined tonight by Bob Le and Valerie Singleton.

Susan Hampshire is not hard at work as an actress—she is about the unreality of reality, or you have given up the very success rate is about 50 per cent, rising slightly. But tonight (BBC 1, 8.30) we reach only the stage in the series so I could still lose my grip on Mr. T. Tonight we learn it is a clock, two and we will (perhaps) why our "now" might well be somebody else's. I think I have got that right.

bing of a musical event on Radio 3 (9.45), as a prelude to tomorrow night of a three-part major documentary on the work of Benjamin Britten: tonight we hear the first of his piano and voice works Temporal Variations, The Wasp, and The Wasp—all dating from the middle 1930s. A brief reminder about Bach's St John Passion (Radio 3) that better spiritual preparation for Easter could there

BE SYMBOLS MEAN: \*STEREO; \*BLACK AND WHITE; AT.

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

9.55 am Ludwig: a story for children.  
10.00 Jackanory: Maurice Denham reads Ferret Summer by Bridget Chard (r).  
10.15 Tazman and the Space God (r).  
10.30 Brown Wolf: About a dog in the Klondike (r).  
10.45 pm News and weather.  
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The hot air balloon race from Ragley Hall, the 17th century home of the Marquis of Hertford, in Warwickshire. A live transmission.  
1.45 Mister Ben: The Red Knight (r).  
2.00 Close down at 2.00.  
3.55 Play School: Edward Lear's story Quangle Wangle's Hat, with Helen O'Sullivan's illustrations.  
4.20 The All New Popeye Show: cartoon fun, starring the spinach-eating sailor. 4.40 Graham's Gang: The gang are involved in the making of a movie (r).  
5.05 John Craven's Newsround: Junior news-

round. 5.10 Blue Peter: Behind the scenes of a Dr Who exhibition.  
5.40 News: with Richard Baker.  
5.55 Nationwide.  
6.55 Tomorrow's World: Judith Hannes has an encounter with frogs in the course of an analysis of dust from the atmosphere. Also, new technology for training oarsmen, and how cat fish can increase the world's alligator population.  
7.20 The Pops: Featuring the records which pop music enthusiasts are buying or are contemplating buying.  
7.55 Lennie and Jerry: Comedy show with Lennie Bennett and Jerry Stevens. Their guests are Terry Wogan and Helen Shapiro, with the Ali Hassan Troupe, a specialty act.  
8.30 The Real Thing: Continuing James Burke's investigation into the real meaning of reality. Tonight: why one man's now can sometimes be another man's then. Third film in a series of six (see Personal Choice).  
9.00 News: with Richard Baker.  
9.25 Play Today: The Vanishing Army. Second showing of Robert Holt's strong play about an NCO (Bill Patterson) who comes to grief both in the Army and in Cissy Street. Not a good advertisement for the Army of today—if it's true representation of what goes on.  
10.45 Question Time: Robin Day is again in the chair, and his panel consists of John Critchley, MP, the American journalist Bonnie Angelo, Baroness Jeger and Trevor Phillips, students' union president.  
11.45 News headlines and weather.

## Regions

WAVELENGTHS: Cymru/Wales: 8.55 am News, 9.25 am Play Today, 10.45 am News, 11.45 am News, 12.05 pm News, 1.00 pm News, 1.45 pm News, 2.00 pm News, 2.30 pm News, 3.00 pm News, 3.30 pm News, 4.00 pm News, 4.30 pm News, 5.00 pm News, 5.30 pm News, 6.00 pm News, 6.30 pm News, 7.00 pm News, 7.30 pm News, 8.00 pm News, 8.30 pm News, 9.00 pm News, 9.30 pm News, 10.00 pm News, 10.30 pm News, 11.00 pm News, 11.30 pm News, 12.00 pm News, 12.30 pm News, 1.00 am News, 1.30 am News, 2.00 am News, 2.30 am News, 3.00 am News, 3.30 am News, 4.00 am News, 4.30 am News, 5.00 am News, 5.30 am News, 6.00 am News, 6.30 am News, 7.00 am News, 7.30 am News, 8.00 am News, 8.30 am News, 9.00 am News, 9.30 am News, 10.00 am News, 10.30 am News, 11.00 am News, 11.30 am News, 12.00 am News, 12.30 am News, 1.00 am News, 1.30 am News, 2.00 am News, 2.30 am News, 3.00 am News, 3.30 am News, 4.00 am News, 4.30 am News, 5.00 am News, 5.30 am News, 6.00 am News, 6.30 am News, 7.00 am News, 7.30 am News, 8.00 am News, 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